AN

AUTHENTIC COPY

OF THE

CORRESPONDENCE IN INDIA,

BETWEEN THE

COUNTRY POWERS

AND THE HONOURABLE THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVANTS;

CONTAINING

AMONGST MANY OTHERS THE LETTERS OF

GOVERNOR HASTINGS,
J. MACPHERSON, ESQ.
J. STABLES, ESQ.
E. WHELER, ESQ.
SIR JOHN CUMMING,
NATH. MIDDLETON, ESQ.
FRANCIS FOWKE, ESQ.
JAMES FRASER, ESQ.
JOHN BRISTOW, ESQ.
DAVID ANDERSON, ESQ.
GENERAL STIBBERT,
COL. MORGAN,
MAJOR PALMER,
MAJOR BROWN;

&c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL AT CALCUTTA.

The Whole forming a Collection of the most Interesting India-Papers, which were laid befo e Parliament in the Session of 1786.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

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To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſq. and the Members of the Supreme Council, at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I HAVE the honour to encloſe the copy of my correſpondence with Captain Jaques, together with four contingent bills tranſmitted to me by that gentleman. In regard to the gun, I beg leave to inform you, it has lately only been delivered over to the Aumils, and the cattle and men attached to it were till then ſupported by Captain Jaques.

The circumſtance relative to the commotions created by Bulbudder, in the diſtricts of Sahlone and Jayes, I have already ſubmitted to your conſideration; it is with great pleaſure I inform you that he has not returned to the Vizier's dominions. In my addreſs of the 30th ultimo, I mentioned the capture of the fort Korrayu; the Vizier has thought proper to direct the Aumils capitally to puniſh the two ringleaders, Amrow Sing and Gundcharry, taken in arms in the ſaid fort, as they were conſidered in the light of Bulbudder's adherents, and have on former occaſions interrupted the peace of the country.

Captain Jacques has, in the courſe of the ſervice, conducted himſelf with great zeal and activity; and it is owing to his exertions, in conjunction with thoſe of the Aumils, Iſmael Beg and Tuckee Beg, that the buſineſs has been brought to its preſent ſtate with loſs of very few lives, and little detriment to the revenue.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, 28th Feb. 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW. Reſident at the Vizier's court.

To John Briſtow, Eſq. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

The Golandaz, Cluſhies, Bildars, and people with bullocks, I took in May laſt with the Nabob's gun (that

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had been with Abdulla Beg when he was killed) having repeatedly asked me to write you the particulars, that they might be paid the arrears which they say is due to them, I have been induced thereto, as also to acquaint you, that the Aumil, Ishmael Beg, by order of Major Lumsdaine, has paid them one month and a half wages, being for the time they left Fyzabad under my command up to the first of the present month, December. Therefore I conceive there is a balance still due them, for the time they were at Fayzabad, of about five months and an half.

I have the honour to be,

Camp, Atteah, Sir, &c.

December 14, 1782. (Signed) LEOD. JAQUES, Capt. Commanding at Atteah.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Captain Leonard Jaques, commanding 2d Battalion of the 20th Regiment; dated the 29th December, 1782.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 14th instant.

The Aumils are intrusted about furnishing the expences attending the bullocks attached to the Vizier's artillery.

John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I am honoured with your's of the 29th ultimo, and from its tenor have to inform you, that for upwards of six weeks after I marched from Fyzabad, no Aumils were with me, of course I was under the necessity of supplying every necessary, both to the cattle and gun. Ammunition of every sort included, and the wheels which were taken from different carriages, almost tumbling to pieces, with every other part of the wood and iron work, in such a bad condition that I was obliged, on our coming to our encamping ground, daily to set every hand to work that I could meet with, and by this attention have at last succeeded in getting every thing into a very good condition. I have now got forty-two rounds, and sixteen rounds of grape, which I suppose will be sufficient for the service of the gun while under my care.

I am now to request your permission of asking you in what manner I am to be reimbursed for the above-mentioned repairs, as also for the extra people I have been necessitated to entertain for the use of the gun and tumbril, crossing the Goomty, levelling the forts of Thirra and Chukin, &c. Majors have been allowed three thousand

rupees

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rupees per month, while detached serving in the Vizier's dominions, in lieu of all contingencies; and I cannot doubt but you will allow half that sum to be very reasonable, when you consider the expence and trouble I have been obliged to enter into.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) LEOD JAQUES,
Capt. Com. the 2d battn. 20th Reg. Sepoys.

Camp, Purey,
Nullah, Jan. 5, 83.

To Captain Leonard Jaques, commanding the 2d Battalion of the 20th Regiment.

Sir,

I have received your's of the 5th instant; and request you will inform me by whose orders you destroyed the forts of Thirra and Chukra. In regard to the people belonging to the gun attached to your battalion, as every other expence attending it, I must inform you the Aumils are allowed a certain sum by the Vizier in their Jumma Wassil Baukey. You will please to transmit to me the particulars of the charges you have incurred, and the establishment both of men and bullocks at the time you received the gun. I request you will inform me if either the late Resident or your commanding officer gave you any instructions to incur the said charges.

I have no authority to advise the Vizier to grant any fixed allowance for officers on detachment; if you think yourself entitled to the monthly sum of fifteen hundred repees on account of contingencies, I will submit your claim to the Honourable the Governor General and Council.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resi. at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
10 Jan. 1783.

To John Bristow, Esq. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have received your's of the 10th instant, and agreeable to your desire I have to inform you, that the 21st November Major Lumsdaine ordered me to march to Jayes, and render the Aumil Ishmael Beg (who there joined me) every assistance in my power; this I have done to my utmost, till he left me to proceed for Lucknow, the middle of last month, when Tuckee Beg was sent to me in his room, with orders by Major Lumsdaine, to render him every assistance he might request; this I also have done to the utmost of my power. On the 17th ultimo, in the

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evening, Tuckee Beg told me the Jemidars of Thirſu and Chuken had collected the Nabob's revenues from the villages about them, and were in arms againſt the Nabob's ſervants, refuſing to account for the caſh they had received, and requeſted me to march againſt them. The 18th I ſent, and had the roads examined; and the 19th I marched, but on our arrival at the fort of Thirrah, it was abandoned. The Aumil told me it muſt be deſtroyed: I, agreeable to my inſtructions, complied, and aſſiſted him to the utmoſt, in conſequence of which it was even with the ground that night. He then informed me it was neceſſary to do the ſame to the fort of Chukin, and the 20th it ſhared the ſame fate.

I am now to requeſt you will ſend me orders to whom I may give up the Nabob's gun, or that you will give orders to Major Lumſdaine concerning that I may take away my Sepoys, formerly Golandazes in the Honourable Company's ſervice, and who I poſted to the gun, being maſters of that duty, entertaining Sepoys in their room, and who I ſhall immediately diſcharge, now that I perceive the difficulty I ſhall have in being reimburſed the caſh I have advanced for the good of the Nabob's ſervice.

I am alſo, in reply to that part of your letter where you ſay the Aumils are allowed a certain ſum on the abovementioned account, to inform you, that it was after repeated application to Iſhmael Beg, informing him about the people who had been attached to the gun during its ſtay at Fyzabad, and who came along with it with me, a Duffedar, ſix Golandaez, five Laſcars, one carpenter, one blackſmith, and thirty-two guns and tumbril bullocks, with their drivers; that I was able to get one month and a half pay for the men, and who I had been ſupporting at the rate of two annas per day each, to keep them from ſtarving. I muſt alſo inform you that theſe people and cattle I have repeatedly applied to Tuckee Beg for ſubſiſtence for, but without effect; and the cattle would go without grain, did I not ſupply it to them.

The particulars of the charges I have incurred I will hereafter ſend you, at preſent they are not ready. I will alſo tranſmit you a copy of Major Gilpin's orders regarding the gun, on my taking charge of it. And regarding the fixed monthly allowance you mention, had I thought neceſſary to have made applications to the Board, I ſurely ſhould not have applied to you.

I have the honour to be,
Camp, Purſeddypore, Sir,
January 13, 1783. Your moſt obedt. ſervant,
(Signed) LEO^D^ JAQUES,
Capt. comg. the 2d batn. 20th regt. of Sepoys.

To

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To Captain Leonard Jaques, commanding the 2d Battalion of the 20th Regiment of Sepoys.

Sir,

I have been favoured with your letter of the 15th instant; and in reply to that part of it desiring instructions relative to the disposal of the gun. I am to request you will cause it to be delivered to the Aumils Mirza Tuckee Beg, and Mirza Ishmael Beg.

With respect to the expence you inform me you have incurred on the occasion, it is a charge which, for the reason already assigned in my letter of the 10th instant, I cannot possibly admit without a reference to the Board. When you send me the particulars I will, as I said before, if you desire it, make that reference. I am Sir,

Lucknow, Your most obedient servant,
20 Jan. 1783. (Signed) J. BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To John Bristow, Esq. Resident at the Court of the Vizier.

Sir,

The bearer of this, one of the people who came from Fayzabad, attached to the Nabob's gun under my command, and by order of Major Gilpin, waits on you with this letter, to know if he and the rest of the people attached to the gun are to have any subsistence, and from whom, as the Aumil will not advance them any thing, notwithstanding my having told him, that your last positively says every necessary is to be supplied to the Nabob's cattle, gun, and tumbril, by the Aumils; and Tuckee Beg, the Aumil with me, tells me he has positive orders from Hyder Beg Cawn, not to advance any thing to those people.

I am therefore to request your orders how to act; as I have applied to Major Lumsdaine, shewn him your letters to me, and my last to you, requesting he would order the gun to be delivered to the Aumil, or dispose of it in any other manner he might think proper, so that it was taken from me.

Camp, Roolah, I am, Sir,
Jan. 20, 1783. Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) LEOD JAQUES,
Capt. comg. at Roolah.

To John Bristow, Esq. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have been favoured with your's of the 20th instant, and have given orders for the gun and tumbril to be delivered to Ishmael Beg, agreeable to your desire.

 Again

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Again I am to inform you, that the expences I have been under the neceſſity of incurring ſince I left Fyzabad, on behalf of the gun, and otherwiſe, I will ſhortly make you acquainted with the particulars of, and with which, agreeable to the public letter I received from John Murray, Eſquire, (Comptroller General laſt year) the Board, I preſume, has but lately concerned themſelves; which contingencies, till the time above-mentioned, have always been anſwered by the Reſident, at leaſt it was the caſe with mine laſt year, during my command at Fayzabad.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient ſervant,
(Signed) LEOD JAQUES,
Capt. commanding at Atteah.

Camp, Atteah,
July 23, 1783.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Leonard Jaques to Mr. Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated from Jelauladabad, in the Diſtrict of Maniſhpore.

I am now to requeſt, that orders may be ſent me to join my brigade; for, give me leave to tell you, Sir, I think it hard to be continued on this duty, and not even allowed the money I have advanced for the good of the Nabob's ſervice, which your laſt letter informs me.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Captain Leonard Jaques, commanding the 2d Battalion of the 20th Regiment; dated 1 February, 1783.

I have received your letter, without date, requeſting you may be directed to join your brigade, which it is not in my power to do, until the Vizier ſhall deem the ſervice of the troops under your command no longer neceſſary in Sahlone.

I have called upon you to furniſh me with the particulars of the charges you have incurred, and am deſirous that you ſhould tranſmit them, that I may make a juſt repreſentation of your claims.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Leonard aques to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated from Nabob Gunge, 8 February, 1783.

Accompanying, I beg leave to tranſmit you four bills of the expence I have incurred during the different months ſince I left Fyzabad, on behalf of his Excellency the Vizier, agreeable to your commands.

To

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To Captain Leonard Jaques, commanding the 2d Battalion of the 20th Regiment of Sepoys.

Sir,

I have received your favour of the 8th instant, and now transmit you a copy of my address to the Honourable Governor General and Council on the subject of your bills.

Lucknow, 28th Feb. 1783.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resi. at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Under date the 24th January, I had the honour to transmit you information relative to the Seiks, who have since that period committed depredations on the neighbouring countries, and made several attempts against the Vizier's dominions. The small force with which their attacks have been repulsed, flatter me with hopes that little is to be apprehended, if timely precautions be taken. I cannot submit the facts to your consideration with clearness and precision, except by a view of the whole of my correspondence and intelligence on the subject. I beg your excuse for intruding upon your attention such numerous papers as I now inclose, of which a list accompanies this address. My principal reason for being so particular, is to guard against the claims and deductions Almass Ally Cawn wishes to establish for the damages sustained by the depredations of the Seiks, which are set forth in the representations of his Naibs, No. 7 and 11. He pretends that the collections of districts yielding nine lacks of rupees are entirely at a stand. I am clearly of opinion the loss can hardly exceed ten thousand rupees. Indeed I should consider him culpable for any mischief his countries may have suffered, the troops under his command being in every respect equal to repelling the attacks of any bodies of Seiks likely to appear in these quarters; and I have uniformly held this language to him, when he has spoke to me upon the subject.

Khawja Ain ul Deen has attended at Lucknow, in order to state the distressed situation of Rohilcund, arising from the periodical rains not having been so plentiful as usual during the last season. At the end of December, or in all January, a few showers are necessary for the cultivation of the rubby harvest; these also have failed, but I am happy to understand, from the best intelligence I can obtain, that a famine is not to be apprehended. Khawja

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Ain ul Deen has objected to the payment of the full amount of the assignments granted on him, founding his plea of inability on the drought. He earnestly requested to hold the country in amanny, and not in farm; and solicited to have a Sezawal deputed on the part of the Honourable Company, and a Peishcar on the part of the Vizier, to inspect his conduct. The great expence attending these appointments was urged in objection to them. Unless the persons selected for such trusts are men of superior abilities, and strict integrity, a collusion might be formed between the parties. From the experience I have had on these occasions, I can hardly quote an instance where they have been attended with any good to the public: on the contrary, the interference of Sezawals and Peishcars creates a divided authority, and furnishes the Aumil with excuses for the discharge of his duty. By such an arrangement also Khauja Ain ul Deen would be relieved from all responsibility. The plan I purpose following with regard to him is, to be very peremptory in my demands until the conclusion of the year, at which period, as no plea of interruption to the collection can then be urged, the appointment of a Sezawal and Peishcar may be adviseable, and proper persons selected, and invested with such authority as may prepare the way for dividing the country into a number of small farms.

My correspondence with the Commanding Officer will explain the steps taken to defend the country against the Seiks. The letters from Major Browne, No. 16 and 17, speak of their depredations in a serious light. In regard to his proposal of assisting the King with troops, I should imagine the Vizier's finances at this period are not in a state to admit of incurring expences which are not absolutely unavoidable, and I hope the proposed detachment will be attended with every good effect that can be desired.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
the 14th March,
1783.

List of Inclosures in Mr. Bristow's Letter of the 15th March, 1783.

No. 1. Translation of a letter from Mohummed Casim Khan, dated 20th January, at Raujpore, in Rohilcund.

2. Copy of a letter from Colonel James Morgan, commanding in the field, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated 27th January, 1783.

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3. Translation

3. Translation of a letter from Teig Chund Roy, Naib of Darranegeur, to Khaja Ain ul Dien, dated Tuja Gaut, the evening 6th Rubbee ul Awil.
4. Copy of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Sunday, 4th March, 1783.
5. Copy of a letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding a detachment on the frontier station, dated 5th March, 1783.
6. Copy of a letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Colonel James Morgan, commanding in the field, dated 5th March, 1783.
7. Translation of a letter from Mahomed Asum Uddeen Cawn, dated 23d Rubbeee ul Awul 1191, to Almass Ally Cawn.
8. Copy of a letter from Colonel James Morgan, commanding the troops in the field, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident, dated 7th March, 1783.
9. Copy extract of a letter from Major General Stibbert to Colonel Morgan, dated 7th February, 1783.
10. Copy of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Futty Ghur, March 9th, 1783.
11. Copy of a letter from Mohammed Azim Uddeen Cawn to Almass Ally Cawn, dated the 25th and 29th of Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hegira.
12. Copy of a letter from James Morgan, commanding the troops in the field, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated 12th March, 1783.
13. Copy extracts of intelligence from the news-papers arrived from Delhy, dated 8th March, 1783.
14. Copy of a letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated Lucknow, 14th March, 1783.
15. Translation of his Excellency the Vizier's shoka to Almass Ally Cawn, Jumpra Mohummud Casim Beg, Thonja Amiul Dein, and Mohummud Casim Cawn, dated 7th Rubbee 1197.
16. Extract of a letter from Major James Browne, dated Camp at Agra, 2d March, 1783, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.
17. Copy of a letter from Major James Browne, dated Camp at Agutt, 11th March, 1783, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

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Translation of a Letter from Mahomed Cazim Khan, dated 20th January, at Rajpoora, in Rohilcund.

On the 17th of the present month, a numerous army of Seiks, under the conduct of four renowned Chiefs, appeared at the Gauts of Kurum Coss, Ram Gaut, and Rajgaut, where the river is fordable. On hearing of this, I forthwith ordered some infantry and cavalry to those gauts, to prevent their crossing, and directed them to secure all the boats, and fasten them on this side the water. On that day an engagement continued between the army and my people till the setting of the sun.

Now whereas a mighty host of the enemy appeared in force at Rajgaut, where the river is shallow and narrrow, and which is distant from my place of residence, Rajpoora, about four coss, I before day-break of the 18th got all my baggage and camp followers lodged in the small fort of Rajpore, under charge of Mirza Suddur Adun Mahomed, and marched with the small party of horse and foot that I had, towards Raj Gaut, where I arrived before the rising of the sun. The enemy, consisting of above 20,000 fighting men, including those which serve for booty, made an effort to cross, but I arrived at the critical juncture, and they could not succeed; and a fierce battle ensued, and continued till the setting of the sun; but I cannot say that any blood was shed on that important day. Yet, at the close of the day the enemy retired, and I, faithful to my trust, continued with my gallant followers on the bank of the river all night; nor did we ungird our loins, though wearied with glorious labour from the excess of our vigilance, and alertness—think not it was from fear, and that it was for the sake of running away: And the divine favour, joined with the auspices of his Highness and you, operating in our favour, fear and dismay invaded the hearts of our enemies, and drove away sleep from their camp, and made them anxious for their own safety, so that they ceased not to watch all night, and on the morning of the 19th too; and behold, despairing of success here, they moved off towards Khorje and Shukapoore.

And, to my honour I can relate it, the Gossayns, a valiant people, though very numerous, dare not face these terrible Seiks, but on their approach they skulked into their forts, and sneaked into their strong places, leaving, to their eternal disgrace, the jaydads of their Lords the Gossayne Chiefs to these merciless wretches pleasure; and they did not fail to ravage and destroy the country, and plunder the poor farmers and inhabitants, for they found no one to oppose them in all they did. Finding no difficulty in committing

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ting these depredations, emboldened them to meditate upon acting the same on this side the river, and they immediately conceived the design of penetrating into Rohilcund as far as Sumbhull, Chandursic, and Moradabad, which opulent places they had fixed their eyes upon, as worthy of being plundered. The merchants and people of those places hearing of their intentions, took the alarm, and removed with their families and valuables from thence, and went to other places of security. But fortunately for the country and for the inhabitants, I arrived and protected them from being spoiled. And, had I had with me but a little larger force, and two or three guns, I should without hesitation have crossed the river, and have given them battle; and I flatter myself I should have defeated and punished them for their impudence. But, considering there was a strong and numerous host on that side of the water, and I had but a few followers, I thought it adviseable to remain within my own limits. But let it suffice, I have, under the divine favour and your happy auspices, prevented any damages being committed by them, and caused the terrors that had seized his Excellency's good subjects to subside.

Yet, though I have so gallantly defeated their designs, and discomfited the enemy in their first effort, I apprehend they will not lay aside their enterprize so quietly and easily, but expect that they will return about two months hence to renew their attempts, with an army numerous as the locusts in summer.

A true translation.
J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the
Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel James Morgan, commanding in the Field, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Cawnpore, 27th of January, 1783.

I have received your favour of the 25th instant, inclosing a copy of Mahomed Cazim's letter to you, by which it is evident that but a small force is required to oppose the Seiks; and it will, I make no doubt, make you agree with me in the opinion of Sir John Cumming's detachment being fully sufficient for protecting his Excellency's territories from their depredations; indeed I suppose he has taken the proper measures on the occasion already.

As from Mohamud Cazim's letter it appears, that Rohilcund is threatened with an invasion by these plunderers in two months time, I judge it requisite for his Excellency to urge

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urge on a proper arrangement of troops for the defence of the fords and inlets by which they can enter it.

(Signed) JAMES MORGAN,
Col. commanding in the Field.

A true copy.
Wm. Swainton,
Asst. to the Resident.

Translation of a Letter from Tug Chund Roy, Naib of Daranagur, to Khawja Ayn ul Deen, dated Tuja Gaut, the Evening 6th Rubbee ul Awal.

The 4th of Rubbee ul Awal, on hearing that the enemy had crossed the river near the Gaut Balu Wallu, on the side of Tuijee Gaut, I dispatched an arzee to you, which you must have received.

At the time of marching from the above place, I sent a Chubdar, and an Hircarra to the battalions belonging to Meer Mohamed Hossein at Balawallau Gaut, desiring that two battalions might remain there, and the remainder, with two guns, come immediately to me, and upon their arrival I should march forward. I also sent a message to the above Meer, who was at Raypoor, to be ready with two guns. When the battalions and guns arrived, I myself went to Raypoor; they were left under the command of said Meer, to whom I sent a message, desiring he would be in readiness to march forward, and that I had waited in expectation of him. He, in excuse, returned for answer, that both he and his men were fatigued; and however positive my orders were, and the messages that passed between us, he came not. Certain intelligence arrived, that the enemy had passed the river, and were encamping near Sumbull Wallu Gaut; that the sepoys under Umjud Cawn, who were there, had engaged the enemy; two persons were killed, and four wounded; our troops retreated from their encampment fighting, and arrived with their battalion stationed at Gurry Turja; the encampment fell into the hands of the enemy. They dismounted their horses, divided into four bodies, besieged a small fort garrisoned by three companies. Mohummed Umjud Cawn, who was at Bunnaud, on hearing this intelligence, marched with cannon, and some more companies, to the battalion. He fired upon the enemy with grape and musketry. By the grace of God, and your auspices, numbers were killed and wounded, and many horses destroyed. When night came, the enemy encamped in a plain, near the small fort. I also waited at Narveul, in expectation of the battalions. On finding they did not come, I marched to Tuga Gaut with cannon, and in company with Meer Mohummed Sha, Mohummed Hussein

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Hussein Cawn, Mahommed Jafter Cawn, Mahommed Usman Cawn, Fussail Beg, the cavalry of Bany Behudre, and others.

At that very time Umjed Cawn and the enemy were fighting, he with his troops were in a small fort, and the Seiks surrounded it. On the moment of my arrival they were disheartened, relinquished the fort, &c. threw many dead bodies into the Ganges, while they re-crossed; they halted at a village called Canuhery, five coss on the other side of the Ganges.

By the grace of God, and your auspices, we became victorious. The inhabitants of this country were exceedingly alarmed when the enemy passed the river, but now their fears are vanished. I have pitched my tents at Turja Gaut, and have stationed Hircarrahs for intelligence. What I hear to-morrow you shall be informed of. After the battle was over, the battalions of Meer Mahommed Hussin, and Rajah Ally Beg, marched to this place.

A true translation.

J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Residt.
at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to the Resident, dated Sunday, 4th March, 1783.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 1st instant, and I am a good deal surprized that the extract of Captain Hawkshaw's letter of information to me, respecting the motions of the Seiks, should be missing, as I perfectly recollect inclosing it. The only way I can account for it is, that it was wrote on so small a piece of paper, that it might have dropped unobserved on opening the letters. The purport of it was as follows: That he had received intelligence that a body of Seiks, to the number of between three and four thousand, had plundered and burned the village of Carraulie; and that, at the request of the Sizawul, he should march to that place.

The following is a paragraph of a letter I received this morning from Captain Hawkshaw, dated Aly Gunge, the 2d instant. My Hircarras came in last night with the certain account of the Seiks being gone off. What little mischief they did was chiefly in Almass's district.

A true copy.

WM. SWAINSTON,
Asst. to the Rest.
at the Vizier's Court.

To

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To Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding a Detachment on the Frontier Station.

Sir,

The inclosed Persian paper is an arzee from the Naib of Coss Gunge to Almass Ally Cawn, containing intelligence relative to the Seiks: The style of it is very confused, hardly intelligible in many parts. The inconsiderable force which has resisted the Seiks may justly flatter us with hopes that the enemy cannot be very formidable. The dissensions among the Chiefs at Delhy have furnished an opportunity to the Seiks to advance in larger bodies to the Vizier's frontiers than they have hitherto been accustomed to do; and from every intelligence I can obtain, we may reasonably expect they will continue their attempts upon his Excellency's dominions. As Khawjah Ayeem ul Dien did, on the first appearance of the enemy, represent that he had entertained additional troops, he was immediately directed to dismiss them, and has not been allowed for their subsistence. The Minister recommends a regiment should be stationed at such gauts as will by this arrangement be left unguarded. He proposes that the troops now stationed at them may be employed in the collections. Before I advise the Vizier upon this subject, I take the liberty to apprize you of the request, that you may furnish me with your opinion.

I beg leave to observe, that as the Honourable the Governor General and Council highly disapprove of detachments, unless upon the most emergent occasions, I have cautiously avoided recommending them: It appears very likely, however, that a detachment of the Honourable Company's troops will be necessary in Rohilcund. In such case, agreeable to my instructions, it is my duty to apply to the Commanding Officer at Chunar Ghur, to assist the Vizier with a reinforcement to join the troops under your command, that you may always remain with a respectable collected force. The Honourable Board are the more anxious on this head, as the situation of Almass Ally Cawn renders it proper to awe his conduct; and I could wish you would specify the detachments you could spare for the service of Rohilcund. The Seiks have been repulsed by such inconsiderable bodies of the Vizier's troops, that a regiment is the greatest force ever mentioned to me, either by the Vizier, the Minister, or Khaujah Ayeen ul Dein, as necessary.

Almass Ally Cawn is now at Lucknow. He has regularly paid the Company's assignments; but as his power will be reduced after the collections may be compleated, I think it my duty to apprize you of this circumstance, in order

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order to explain the expediency of keeping a respectable body of troops under your command at your present station, in preference to your marching to Rohilcund, according to your former proposition, it being well situated to prevent his executing any scheme prejudicial to the Vizier's interests.

I request you will inform me what number of cavalry you may deem requisite to act with the Officer now stationed with the Sezauwul of Furruckabad, in case at any future period the Seiks should actually enter the neighbouring parts of the country. I request your opinion also on the station a detachment, if you deem any necessary, should occupy on the frontiers of the province of Etaya or Furruckabad, there to remain until such time as all apprehensions of the Seiks may subside. Almass Ally Cawn has pointed out some part between Annop Sheir and Jellally, because it would cover his districts.

I have entered into a detail of those circumstances, that you may be enabled to act upon emergencies; and I shall heartily unite with you in every measure that appears necessary for the preservation of the peace of the Vizier's dominions. I omitted to inform you, that Zabita Cawn had ceded the fort of Suckantall to the Seiks, with a view, as is suspected, of favouring their operations against his Excellency's frontiers, as also to relieve his own country from their depredations. I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have communicated my intelligence concerning the Seiks to Colonel Morgan.

I am directed by his Excellency the Vizier to convey to you his approbation of the step you took in strengthening the detachment with Sezawul of Furruckabad.

You will greatly oblige me by observing secrecy in all matters relative to Almass Ally Cawn.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
5th March, 83. A true cpy. Resident at the Vizier's Court.
Wm. Swainton,
Ass. to the Resident at the Court of the Vizier.

To Colonel James Morgan, commanding in the field.

Sir,

I have the honour to inclose a copy of an Arzee from the Naib of Cass Gunge to Almass Ally Cawn, containing intelligence relative to the Seiks—the style of it is so confused as to be scarcely intelligible in many parts. The inconsiderable force which has resisted the Sieks, may justly flatter us with hopes that the enemy cannot be very formidable. The dissensions amongst the Chiefs at Delhy have furnished

furnished the Seiks with an opportunity of advancing in larger bodies to the Vizier's frontiers than they have hitherto been accustomed to do, and we may reasonably expect they will continue their attemts upon his Excellency's dominions. Khaujah Ayien ul Dien having been directed to dismiss some additional troops, which he had entertained upon the first appearance of the enemy, the Minister recommended a regiment should be stationed at such gauts as will by this arrangement be left unguarded—the troops that are now at them he proposes to employ in the collections.

I have already been favoured with your opinion concerning the force necessary to oppose the Seiks, that a small detachment, judiciouly stationed, will be sufficient to prevent their commiting depredations upon his Excellency's dominions: Should you, however, from any new circumstances, have altered your opinion, I request to be favoured with it. Zabita Cawn has ceded the fort of Suckurtall to the Seiks, with a view, as is supposed, of favouring their operations against the Vizier's frontiers, as also to relieve his own country from their depredations. I beg leave to inform you, that I have acquainted Colonel Sir John Cumming with the intelligence concerning the Seiks; and the application for a detachment, if any be necessary, will of course be made to him.

I have the honour to be,
Lucknow, Sir,
5th March, 1783. Your most obedient
Humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Translation of a Letter fr[illegible]n Mahomed Uzeem Uddeen Khan, dated the 23d of [illegible]ubee ul Awul 1191, to Almass Ally Khan.

I yesterday sent you an account of an irruption made by the Seiks into Sooreen and Buddiram, and that they had come to an engagement with my Tannadar; as also of their having committed the greatest ravages in the districts of Sooreen, Buddiria, Sukljan, Kaushee Gunge, and Gur Gurry, totally despoiling the harvest, and carrying off all the cattle, together with some two hundred of the inhabitants, men, women, and children; at the same time killing and wounding many more. Early this morning 20,000 of their best horse having surrounded Khass Gunge, the report of the engagement which followed must already have reached you; were I to speak of it, it might carry too much the appearance of self applause.

By

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By the bleſſing of God, I happened to be furniſhed with two pieces of artillery, of which I made ſo good a uſe, that I obliged them to give ground, after an obſtinate engagement: Quickly after, having diſmounted, and advanced my infantry to the walls, they made a furious charge; but were again repulſed by us, and beaten back to their camp, which is about three coſs from the river, and which they regained at night. I ſhall be particularly attentive to all their motions. I yeſterday ſent information of the irruption into Sooreen, &c. to Rajah Suveram at Attya, requeſting he would ſend me a re-inforcement; but he tells me, in anſwer, that the ſettlement of Shuckooabad is in agitation, and the Engliſh battalion is there; but will ſend the troops to my aſſiſtance as ſoon as they can be ſpared from the collections. The remainder of this letter contains an account of his own gallantry; the action in which he ſlew five Seiks outright, and as many horſes. He repreſents, that the collections are at a ſtand, and neither a reinforcement of troops nor ammunition can be procured in the country, which is become a deſart, for the ſpace of forty coſs.

A true tranſlation.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident at the
Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel James Morgan, commanding the Troops in the Field, to the Reſident, dated 7th March, 1783.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letter of 5th inſtant, encloſing a copy of an arzee, containing intelligence, &c. and I beg leave to acquaint you, that my opinion reſpecting the force neceſſary to oppoſe the Seiks remains unchanged; and I can only recommend, that his Excellency ſhould ſend inſtructions to Colonel Sir John Cumming, without loſs of time, to detach a proper number of troops for the protection of his dominions, and for the defence of the gauts and inlets which lead into them; to which end Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment is fully ſufficient, as you will perceive from the encloſed extract, which I have tranſmitmitted for your ſatisfaction.

That letter I received from General Stibbert, in conſequence of my having tranſmitted to the Governor General and Council a copy of a letter written to you on the former occaſion.

I had already received intelligence of the Seiks bending their route towards Anoopſhear, and Khoogeh, and Cauſh Gunge;

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Gunge; and at the same time I am given to understand that Afraisab Khan has already crossed the Jumma from Agra, and marched with his army to join the Goossaynes, and to drive away the Seiks from their country; and I learn also, that Mirza Shuffee Khan proposes to cross over and attack them. His brother Mirza Zeyn al Abden, has marched towards Ghows Ghur, and has, ere this, been joined by Zabteh Khan; and they intend to march with their united forces against the Seiks, and drive them away from that part of the Doab lying opposite to Daranagur, which they have nearly laid waste, having been joined by the Purrachat Gurr Man, who was disaffected to Zeyn al Abdeen. As the interest of Afrasiab Chan, and the other Chiefs are so closely and considerably concerned in the danger, I make no doubt of their exerting themselves to the utmost to rid their several estates from those spoilers and plunderers, who have nearly destroyed them already; and Mirza Shuffi and Mahomed Beg Khan having come to a good understanding, and settled their differences amicably, the former is at liberty to attend to the situation of the Doab. Should Zabteh Khan have given up to the Seiks the fort of Sookertull, I imagine it was because he could not avoid it, or the fear of them led him to do so; for I do not apprehend it consistent with policy in him, to suffer those freebooters to establish themselves in his territories: But, upon strict enquiry, I find Sookertull is not in a defensible state at present, nor can it be considered as a strong post for troops to be at, though it would be a convenient station for the Seiks, and favour their attempts upon the opposite country to it. In order to frustrate which, a sufficient force from Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment should be stationed up there to attend to their motions, and should remain there till the river rises, when they would not be able to cross without the risk of being intercepted. However, I have not as yet received accounts from my people at Daranagur, of the fort of Sookertull being ceded to the Seiks.

A true copy.

Wm. SWAINSTON,
Assistant to the Resident.

Extract of a Letter from Major General Stibbert, to Colonel James Morgan, &c. dated Fort William, 7th February, 1783.

" Your reply to the Resident's letter, preparing you to
" take the necessary measures for protecting the Vizier's
" dominions against the inroads of the Seiks, was extreme-
" ly proper, as well as the advice you offered him on the
" occasion; for the detachment under Colonel Sir John
" Cummings

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"Cumming is, as you justly observed, expressly intend-
"ed for the defence of the upper frontiers of the Nabob's
"country, and must, in my opinion, be adequate to that
"purpose."

A true extract.

(Signed) H. LLOYD,
Aid de Camp.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Futty Ghur, March 9th, 1783.

I have received your letter of the 5th instant, with some papers of intelligence enclosed. By my own intelligence I find, that there are many Seiks dispersed about the country in separate bodies; but though they are formidable to the natives, they cannot be so to our troops, unless they come down with much greater force. It is probable that Khaja Ain ul Dien had entertained a body of troops to oppose them, for which no allowance has been made; his representation is much exaggerated, with a view to obtain some allowance or abatement in the revenues. It is however necessary, for the preservation of the Vizier's districts, and the support of the honour of our arms, that a stop should be put to the predatory incursions of the Seiks: I am ready, therefore, to take any steps that may be agreeable to the Vizier.

You inform me that the Minister has proposed the stationing a regiment at the Gauts; I suppose he means those occupied by Khajah Ain ul Dien's troops, who are to be employed in the collections; you mention also, that the Governor General and Council highly disapprove of detaching, for which reason you cautiously avoid recommending it. I apprehend the intention of the Board is, that a force should be always collected in readiness to oppose the sudden attempt of any enemy who might endeavour to disturb the upper provinces, and also to preserve the discipline of the troops. At the same time they undoubtedly intend to assist the Vizier in the internal government of his own dominions, when it does not clash with more important views. I gave it to you as my opinion, both in conversation and by letter, that it would always be necessary to have at least three regiments collected at this station; a force which I think equal to any that can suddenly appear on the frontiers.

I now beg leave to make two proposals, which I request you to submit to the Vizier; the one is, that a single regiment should be stationed somewhere near Ram Gaut, on the east side of the Ganges. I mention particularly the east

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east side, because I think it dangerous to trust so small a force on the other side, where it would be exposed to the attacks of the Seiks; should they assemble in a large force, the rapidity of their motions would put it out of my power to afford timely relief at so great a distance. The other proposal is, that two regiments, with four six pounders, should be detached under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, and stationed a few coss either above or below Anupsheer, on the western side of the Ganges, as may be most convenient to protect Rohilcund. I should have no objection to trusting two regiments on the western side, because I think that force would be able to oppose a very large body of Seik cavalry, till they could be reinforced from hence. As I am sensible the Vizier will pay the utmost deference to the advice you gave him, I wish you to consider these proposals with attention. Whatever may be the Vizier's determination, I shall instantly obey his orders, which I request may be express and positive.

Should the latter proposal be adopted, and it still continue necessary to assist the Sizawul of Ferockabad, I intend to relieve with five companies the 11th regiment, which, as it is a very good one, shall make part of the detachment. Should it happen, though I think it scarce possible, that two regiments prove unequal to the service, I shall hold myself, with two more regiments, in readiness to march at a moment's notice, upon the first intimation from Colonel Knudson. In such event, I should be under the necessity of withdrawing the battalion from the Sizawaul, that I might be enabled to leave a regiment here; and it must readily occur to you, that under such circumstances no time ought to be lost. The delay which must attend giving notice to you and the Vizier might be productive of fatal consequences. This is an event, though improbable, which may possibly happen; and I state it, that you may have time to consider and judge of it.

You observe, that a regiment is the greatest force mentioned to you as necessary by the Vizier, the Minister, and Khaja Ain Dien. Should one regiment only be detached, I shall have four remaining, including that with the Sezawul. If two are detached, I shall have three, a force in my opinion sufficient to prevent any bad effects from the resentment of Ulmass. You request my opinion with respect to the number of cavalry requisite to be employed with the detachment now assisting the Sezawul. If two regiments march as proposed towards Anopsheer, whatever cavalry you may be able to send, I would recommend their joining them, I cannot fix any particular number: I have only to observe, that the more cavalry are employed on the service, the more effectually will the peace of the country be

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be ſecured; you are the beſt judge of what number you can obtain. The neceſſity of cavalry is ſo ſtrongly obvious, that it is needleſs to ſtate it: If any are ſent, I requeſt they may be the beſt the Vizier has, and not the common Indoſtan horſe, which, inſtead of protecting, would plunder the country.

The opinion I have given with reſpect to the ſtationing a detachment near Anopſheer, on the weſtern ſide of the Ganges, coincides with that of Ulmaſs. A detachment ſtationed in that vicinity, at the ſame time it protects Rohilcund, will protect Ulmaſs's country alſo: I repeat the opinion I have frequently given, that the effect of troops will always be felt 30 or 40 coſs below their ſtation, but not far above it.

You mention that Zabita Cawn has ceded to the Seiks the fort of Sukertal, with a view to favour their operation againſt the Vizier's dominions, and relieve his country from their depredations. Sukertal, I underſtand, is not a fort, but formerly was an intrenched camp of the Rohillas, and of no ſtrength. It is about 18 coſs from Dawanegar. I am inclined to think the ceſſion of little importance.

In conſequence of your late addreſs, the Board has been pleaſed to prohibit my correſpondence with the officers of government: I ſtand utterly deprived of the means of information, except what little I obtain from common Hircarrahs, upon whoſe reports I can place little dependance. It reſts therefore with you to furniſh me with intelligence, which I can have through no other channel. It is my part to obey the orders of the Honourable Board, without reaſoning on them; neither ſhall I enter into any correſpondence with any of the officers of Government, but depend entirely on you for information.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident at the
Vizier's Court.

Tranſlation of a Letter from Mahummed Auzum Uddeen Cawn, to Ulmaſs Ally Cawn, dated the 25th Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegira.

You muſt have received my letter mentioning the defeat of the Seiks at Coſs Gunge. Yeſterday they marched from Bedereah to Gurſirie, four coſs from Coſs Gunge. We are ready, and, ſhould they again attack us, doubt not giving them a good reception. I wrote before, that there were 25,000 Seiks; now I have ſeen them, and am better acquainted with the ſubject, I am convinced there are 40,000. They have moſt completely plundered the vil-

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lages of Surdun, Bedereah, Budgebutta, Gurguryah. The feed fown in the Rubby is not perceptible. I write not for my advantage. Whilft thefe difturbances continue, the collections are at a ftand. Cofs Gunge is only preferved from this general devaftation. My life is at your fervice; and I flatter myfelf I fhall fupport my truft with honour. To whom, befides God and yourfelf, can I appeal to for the punifhment of the Seiks? I have not yet received any affiftance, and you wrote that the troops of the Hufroor were to fupport me. Act as you think proper. This is certainly a moft wonderful time.

The brother of Jeffa Sing, a Seik Surdar, has been killed.

Tranflation of a Letter from Mohummed Azeim Uddein Cawn, to Ulmafs Ally Cawn, dated 29th Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegira.

I have written to you of the defeat of the Seiks at Cofs Gunge, and the killing of Jeyhurrun, a Seik Surdar; alfo of their burning and levelling even with the ground the few remaining houfes at Bidereah. They have deftroyed Futtypore, the Talooka of Selimpore, and all the villages round about, Madagore excepted; they have carried off twenty thoufand cows, befides killing many men, and confined one thoufand of my people. Some they have fince releafed, others exacted fines from, and numbers ftill remain in prifon. The Seiks are now at Mow, fifteen cofs from Cofs Gunge, with five thoufand horfe and eight thoufand Bunfara; they exact from every houfe they plunder two rupees, in lieu of a bullock for carrying grain, and whatever quantity they find, whether new or damaged, they fend away. Until an army of horfe and foot arrive, I hold myfelf in readinefs. If you do not believe my reprefentations, fend trufty Hircarrahs, and hear their reports. There is at prefent in this country no houfes or food. Secundera and Bareha alone they have not plundered; but the inhabitants are afraid to remain. The rubby is put a ftop to, as there are no men to water the fields. I am ready to oppofe them; but it is neceffary to fend an army well appointed, and ftation a force here. Let me have an anfwer quickly. I have ufed my utmoft endeavours to make the people eafy, but to no purpofe. They crofs the Ganges, and fay, Where are our oxen; where are our inhabitants? Food we have none, and how can we pay the Sircar's demands?

A true tranflation.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Affiftant to the Refident at the Vizier's Court.

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Copy of a Letter from Col. James Morgan, commanding the Troops in the Field; dated the 12th March, 1783, to John Briſtow, Eſq. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letter of the 10th inſtant, incloſed with copies of two letters from the Aumils of Kaſs Gunge, and an extract of a letter from Major Brown: upon the contents of them, I have only to remark, that the motions of theſe parties of Seiks, though ſo numerous, are ſo rapid and ſudden, that it may be expected they will direct their attacks upon any part of the country where no troops are ready to repel them, or even where there is infantry only; and they point out very ſtrongly the neceſſity of a good body of horſe being ſent to act with the troops under Col. Sir John Cumming, and orders; and recommend that his Excellency ſhould ſend a general order to Sir John Cumming for covering the frontiers of his dominions; he will then make the neceſſary diſpoſition of his troops for that purpoſe, according to the intelligence he receives of the motions of the Seiks.

I have received letters from Etawa, dated 8 and 9 inſtant; but they do not mention that an attack upon that place is expected; and I am given to underſtand that Almas has a very conſiderable force with artillery in that diſtrict, but I do not find that they have been employed for the protection of the country and harveſt, at the time they were moſt required.

P. S. Encloſed with this I have ſent for your peruſal ſome extracts from the lateſt news-papers that I have received.

(Signed) J. M.

A true copy.

(Signed) Wm. Swainſton,
Aſſt. to the Reſident.

Extracts of Intelligence from the News-papers arrived from Delhi, dated 8th March, 1783.

Some Hircarras belonging to the Navuab Vizier brought the following accounts of the Seiks and their movements, and layeth them before the king.

An army of them under Juſſa Sing, Thoſa Sing, Kurrum Sing (Chumben) and Dewan Sing, and others of their principal leaders, marched from the village Shumſheen, and laid waſte and plundered 8 towns in the diſtrict of Banyh Putt; then proceeded to Buram, which ſtands on the banks of the Jumna, ſeven Coſs from Delhi, where

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they have erected their standards and pitched their tents; a party of them crossed over the Jumna, and plundered the Soory Rook oula Khan, and the town of Buderpoor, which is on the west bank of Jumna. The inhabitants of these places have fled to Delhi, where the people are under great apprehensions: the Nabob Mujud a Doulah, has got 12 pieces of ordnance from the Royal Artillery Yard, and has disposed of them for the defence of the principal avenues of the city, which is expected to be attacked by the Seiks. Kurren Sing has had the insolence to send a pair of Hircarras to the Nabobs Majed a Dowlah to demand the Rak-si for the city. The King has dispatched orders to Mirza Shuffe Khan, and to Afrusid Khan to march towards Delhi with all their forces immediately.

Intrenchments have been thrown up in different places about the city, and guns with guards posted in them.

News was brought of the Seiks having proceeded to Niziff Gur, which is 10 coss from Delhi.

Duranagur, 6th March, 1783.

The Seiks have entirely quitted the banks of the Ganges in this neighbourhood, and we hear are moving towards Anoopshear Alee Ghur, Kats Gunge, and Khoonjah. This opportunity Tuck Chund, Naib of Khaja Ayn a Deen, embraced, and crossed over the river with a stronger party; being successful, he has returned with 3,000 head of cattle, which he took from the Goojers.

Agra, 8 March.

A letter from Afrasiab Khan arrived, mentioning that the Seiks had precipitately quitted the vicinity of Ali Gur upon his arrival in his Jaydud. It is supposed that the Seiks will bend their route towards Furruckabad.

True extracts.

A true copy. H. LLOYD,
Wm. Swainston, Actg. Pern. Interpreter.
Asst. to the Resi.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Viziet's Court, to Colonel Sir John Cumming; dated Lucknow, 14th March, 1783.

I have received your letter of the 9th instant.—I beg leave to inform you there are one thousand and seventy-two cavalry and four battalions of Sepoys, or two thousand and eighty-seven infantry, stationed at the Gauts about Daronegur. This force has hitherto proved equal to repelling the attacks of the Seiks, and Khaja Orin ul Dien told me, upon his taking leave, a few days since, without my putting the question to him, that he deemed the

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the troops under his command equal to any service that was likely to occur. This obviates the Minister's plea, stated to you in my letter of the 5th instant, that a reinforcement would be necessary in consequence of the reductions which had been made of his troops. If the aid of the detachments under your command should be required in any part of Rohilcund, it will probably occur in the countries held by Myrza Mahommed Casein.

I shall continue to transmit to you every information that may come to my knowledge; but in order to prevent delay, I have advised his Excellency to direct his Aumils, Khaja Ain ul Dein, Myrza Mahommed Casein, Almass Ally Cawn, and Mahommed Beg, to convey to Colonel Morgan and you the earliest intelligence of the motions of the Seiks. The enclosed Persian papers, No. 1, is a copy of his Excellency's orders on this subject. I have also the pleasure to enclose, No. 2, extracts from papers of news transmitted to me by Colonel Morgan, which correspond with those I have received. No. 3 and 4 are a letter from Major Browne, with the Persian paper mentioned to be enclosed in it.

I shall, agreeable to your advice, endeavour, as soon as possible, to obtain cavalry from the Vizier to act with the troops under your command.

I have submitted your proposals to his Excellency's consideration; he approves your detaching Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments of Sepoys and four six pounders, to take post "a few coss either above or below "Anoopsheer, on the western side of the Ganges, as may "be most convenient to protect Rohilcund." You have now full information of every fact before you, and the Vizier reposes entire confidence in your judgment in these matters, and therefore leaves it in your discretion to order the detachment to march without further delay, or else altogether stop it. In forming your determination, his Excellency requests you will consider the advantage to his dominions by the appearance of a respectable body of troops stationed on the frontiers, which will quiet the minds of his subjects, and ensure the collections. The Honourable Board's orders are so very peremptory against detachments, except in emergencies, that you will determine if the present service falls under this description—in my opinion it does: and as you inform me, the separation of your troops upon the proposed plan, can be made with security, I should imagine the reasons for the measure are stronger than those against it. The detachment will probably not be required after the setting-in of the periodical rains.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,

Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Translation

Tranflation of his Excellency the Vizier's Shoka to Almafs Ally Cawn Myhu Mohummed Beg Khaju Ain ul Dein Mohummed Cazin Cawn; dated the 7th of Rubbe Ufany 1197, Hegira.

I underftand that the Seiks are now collected near the boundaries of my country, and are caufing troubles and commotions; that they occafionally enter it, and commit depredations; I therefore give this information to be upon your guard, and that you ufe your utmoft endeavours to preferve the peace of the country under your jurifdiction. Give Colonel Morgan, and Colonel Sir John Cumming, the earlieft and minuteft intelligence of what paffes, as I have directed thofe gentlemen to render you affiftance. This is a pofitive order: be cautious, and obey.

A true tranflation.

J. NEAVE,
Affiftant to the Refident
at the Vizier's Court.

Extract of a Letter from Major James Brown, dated Camp at Agra, 2d March, 1783, to Mr. John Briftow, Refident at the Vizier's Court.

It is however proper to inform you that the general opinion here is, that the Seiks mean to infult the Vizier's frontiers, and that both he and the Englifh will be in no condition for fome time to repel the attack; the great diftance of their troops from the frontiers, and the want of cavalry.

As you are a proper judge of the Vizier's refources and interefts, I fhall only from time to time lay before you fuch information as I think concerns him. You will confider, and determine.

On this ground I beg leave to obferve, that if his Excellency wifhes to raife a body of cavalry, he has now an opportunity of doing it to advantage, as many of the Reffaladars and Jemadars are quitting the fervice of the Sardar here for want of pay, and the loffes fuftained from the drynefs of the feafons in their Jaydads.

The Amin ul Amrah informed me yefterday that the Seiks have marched by Cofs Gunge, with defign to plunder Etawa; as yet I have no intelligence from that fide, but if it is true you will know it as foon as me.

If they have not entered the Vizier's territories, there is ftill great reafon to apprehend they may, unlefs fome preparations be made to oppofe them on the frontiers; for troops at Lucknow and Furrockabad carry little refpect to thofe rapid and irregular invaders, who know very well that

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that they can effect their end of plundering the country before our troops or his Excellency's can arrive to prevent it.

A true copy.
W^M. SWAINSTON,
Asst. to the Resident.

Copy of a Letter from Major James Brown, dated Camp at Agra, 11th March, 1783, to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Though I have no doubt of your having already intelligence of the dangerous aspect of the present invasion of the Seiks, which threatens the total destruction of Delhy, and every thing between the present frontiers of the Seiks and the Vizier's country, yet as, from my nearer situation to the scene of action, and the immediate knowledge I have of affairs in this camp, I am necessarily enabled to judge of many facts and circumstances not subjects of common intelligence, I think it my duty to inform you that, though his Majesty has repeatedly ordered the Amin ul Amrah to Dehly, as the only means of saving the country from final ruin, yet such are his embarrassments, from want of money, from his suspicions of Mahomed Beg Khan, and Nudjif Khouly Khan, his fears from Mahejee Sindia, and the ill success of his expedition against the Jauts, wherein his troops under Daub Beg Khan have received a check, and lost one of his European Commanders, called Sewan, that he cannot be prevailed on to stir from hence to Dehly: who then is to keep off the threatened evil? The question appears to me now reduced to this very small compass, whether the English and Vizier shall, by putting on an appearance of designing to support his Majesty and his Ministers, enable him to keep the Seiks within their natural limits, or whether they shall, to save a small additional expence, remain idle spectators of the destruction of these Sandons by the Seiks, and the consequent establishment of the latter close to the Vizier's frontiers, where we then shall be forced to maintain a defensive war against them, and perhaps their allies.

I know your penetration too well, Sir, to descant on arguments so obvious as those arising from these two positions of the question. I therefore shall only beg leave to recommend what I before once hinted at, I mean the movement of our troops, and his Excellency the Vizier's, to the two frontiers, Anasshan and Darangar. This will not involve ourselves, at the same time that it will protect the Vizier's frontiers, and encourage the chiefs of Dehly to exert themselves when they see assistance so near to them. The

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The character and united authority of Nudjif Khan formed a barrier between the Seiks and the Vizier's country, that is now removed, or removing; and it behoves us to find a subſtitute before it be too late.

The encloſed papers contain the lateſt intelligence.

A true copy,
W^M SWAINSTON,
Aſſiſt. to the Reſident.

To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have received your letter of the 24th ultimo, and ſhall obey your commands reſpecting advances to officers commanding detachments, and the paymaſters of brigade.

I have the honour to be with the greateſt reſpect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient
humble ſervant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
16th March, 1783.

To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have had the honour to receive your commands of the 3d inſtant.

Permit me to return my thanks for the confidence you have thought proper to place in me; and I ſhall in the courſe of this repreſentation endeavour to explain ſuch matters as had not already been clearly ſtated to you.

My addreſs of the 14th inſtant, deſcribing the meaſures which have been taken to defend the country againſt the Seiks I now recommend particularly to your conſideration, as the facts are in ſome reſpects an anſwer to the reaſons you have aſſigned againſt detachments being made from Cawnpore and Chunar Gurrh, whilſt the corps under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming was left inactive. The principle upon which I have founded my advice to the Vizier, has been to keep a reſpectable body of troops collected at each of the ſtations of Cawnpore and Futtah Gurrh, that ſhould ſervice occur, either army might be in a ſituation to act offenſively, and according to the opinions of the commanding officer. They have, ſince I took charge of my office, always had a collected force equal

equal to any enemy that was likely to appear. The detachments may be considered as exceeding what was necessary to make a formidable appearance in the eyes of the powers on the frontiers. They had been usefully employed in preserving the peace of the Vizier's dominions; whereas at Cawnpore, or Futtah Gurr, they would only have been an addition to armies which were already deemed sufficiently strong. They have materially forwarded the collection of the revenues in the districts of Khyrabad, Salone, Allahabad, and Furockabad, particularly in the two former. When I first arrived, the road between this place and the frontier of Benares, was not safe for travellers; it is now perfectly so, and though Bulbudder, and other refractory Zemindars, may make attempts to create disturbances, the capital punishment inflicted on two of the insurgents, as set forth in my address of the 28th ultimo, and the declarations of the Vizier's determination to his Aumils, not to admit a plea of tumults in the country as any excuse for a balance of revenue, will, I hope, ultimately put a stop to the evil.

The imprisonment of Mokum Sing, Narput Sing, and Hindas Sing, as mentioned in my address of the 30th January, I understand upon enquiry was effected by unfair means. The Aumil of Khyrabad had invited those Zemindars to come to his camp, and negotiate for the payment of the revenue; when a disagreement happening about the terms, the Aumil seized an opportunity of imprisoning them. I was told of the circumstances, and warned against advising the Vizier to treat those Zemindars with the same severity as was practised towards persons taken in arms against his Excellency's authority, as it might create a general spirit of discontent and want of confidence throughout the country. I have therefore recommended, that the prisoners should be enlarged, and re-instated in their Zemindary, provided they would consent to surrender their forts. I cannot yet inform you of the result, but shall do it in proper time.

Upon consideration of the advantages derived to the Vizier's service from the detachments, while your armies have been kept in constant security, I hope you will be satisfied I have acted to the best of my judgment. By preserving Colonel Cumming's detachment complete, it has been ready for any service that might occur on the frontier. It is in fact the corps most subject to calls of this nature, as we have experienced in the late attempts of the Seiks. It was in part to explain this point, that I submitted such numerous papers to your consideration in my address of the 14th instant; and now, having every information before you which can be furnished, it depends upon your

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your pleaſure to make alterations; but I hope the diſpoſition propoſed by Colonel Cumming is ſo framed, that while it guards againſt the depredations of the Seiks, as well as protects Rohilcund and the Douab, he may be able to unite his force without danger, ſhould the good of the ſervice require it.

Almas Allee Cawn has given his attendance at Lucknow for above a month paſt. His language is ſubmiſſive, and he pays his kiſts with regularity; but the inconveniences attending his extenſive influence are many. He in a manner dictated his own terms, for I could not, at any period ſince my arrival, have adviſed his diſmiſſion without a certain loſs of the greater part of the revenue of the diſtricts he farms. The heavy debt due to the bankers, the payment of which was my firſt conſideration, the diſtreſs of the Vizier's finances, and the ill-eſtabliſhed ſtate of his authority, rendered it expedient to temporize for the preſent. On mature conſideration of the ſituation of the country, I think it hardly poſſible that Almaſs Ally Cawn can expect to receive aſſiſtance; and I entertain great hopes that the reduction of the influence of all the Vizier's powerful Aumils will be effected with little tumult or inconvenience. It will however be prudent to continue ſuch a force in his Excellency's dominions as may guard againſt accidents; and that now ſtationed in them, under the command of Colonels Morgan and Cumming, together with the regiment from Chunar Ghur, will in my opinion fully anſwer the purpoſe. The new arrangements will take place in the courſe of three or four months; the particulars of the plan ſhall be previouſly ſubmitted to your conſideration. I have occaſionally taken the liberty to treat very fully of theſe matters in my repreſentations to your Honourable Board, not becauſe I am apprehenſive of reſiſtance from Almaſs Allee Cawn and Khaujaain ul Deen, I do not think they will reſiſt; but knowing they have the means to do it, I thought it my duty to apprize you of every circumſtance, and act with the ſame caution as though tumults were actually to be expected.

Reductions have taken place in the Mottayenna, and other branches of the Vizier's expences; and further reductions are ſtill in agitation. The particulars will be tranſmitted you when I can ſtate them in a clear point of view.

Myrza Ezzul Buxh is the perſon appointed to ſucceed Abdul Shuckoor, as Naib Kelladar of Allahabad. Strong intereſt was made with the Vizier to continue the latter in his office, and it was only three days ſince that I could obtain his Excellency's leave for the departure of the new Kelladar. I have directed a ſtatement to be made of Abdul

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dul Shuckoor's exactions, that the penalty you direct may be levied from him.

Sewayjy Eteil complained to me that a tax was demanded of him and his followers, termed the eighth, to be paid on account the Bramins. At my application he was relieved from every charge, and treated with the highest respect by the officers of the Vizier's Government. Myer Mujud attended him during his stay in these provinces; and at Savayjy's particular request, I have continued Myr Mujud upon his duty during the whole of his pilgrimage through the Honourable Company's territories.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
18th March, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 4th instant, relative to the form of requisitions from the Vizier to the commanding officers, for the assistance of the Honourable Company's troops; as also the mode you have thought proper to prescribe in regard to issuing instructions to officers on detachment.

I am uninformed of Colonel Sir Cumming's representations; but permit me to observe, that on all occasions that have hitherto occurred relative to military service, I have never advised the Vizier to follow any measures, except they have been previously recommended by the commanding officers. I have occasionally pointed out the service to be executed, agreeable to instructions I have received from the Vizier, and have never interfered in any point of military duty.

I have the honour to be, with great respect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Lucknow, Your most obedient
the 25th March, 1783. humble servant,
JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have received your letter of the 6th instant, and, agreeable to your commands, have communicated your approbation

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bation of the treaty with Fizoola Cawn to his Excellency the Vizier; and have the pleasure to inform you, that I this day transmitted the ratification to Rampore through Major Palmer.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Lucknow, the 26th March, 1783.
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have delayed replying to your commands of the 3d instant, regarding the means taken to realize the balance due from the Begum, in hopes that I might transmit you favourable accounts of it. Before the recall of Major Gilpin she promised payment, and since that time she has uniformly professed an inability, unless her Jaghyre be relinquished. In my address of the 1st December, I represented to your Honourable Board, that every practicable coercive exertion had been used; and in support of my representations, I submitted to your consideration the copy of Major Gilpin's letter to me upon the subject. The Begum complains that, having no pension or jaghire, she now subsists her family and herself with the greatest difficulty; and should the Vizier persist in withholding every allowance from her, she will be distressed for the necessaries of life.

The above is the substance of the Begum's reasons for her refusal, as they have been communicated to me, both verbally and by letter. I am of opinion, however, from every information I can obtain, that she has the means of satisfying the Honourable Company's demand; but seeing little prospect of a jaghire or pension, she trusts to her hoards for support, and would suffer the severest restraints sooner than comply. Previous to my arrival, her eunuchs were kept for many months in confinement, and led out to corporal punishment. Guards were also put upon her house, to prevent the treasure from being carried away. These measures failed, and you have before you the opinions given by Major Gilpin, the officer who commanded the troops, that "all that force could do has been done." Mr. Middleton thought it very practicable to recover the money from the Begum, by continuing the restraints; and though I differ from that gentleman in my sentiments, yet

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yet I think it my duty to transmit the extract of his letter to me upon the subject, that every information in my power may be presented for your decision. The articles mentioned by Mr. Middleton, I received on taking charge of the office. They consisted of eight elephants, and various sorts of goods, valued by the Begum at three lacks: for the goods, the merchants of Lucknow offered me eighty one thousand rupees. A great part were damaged, owing to the long time they had been kept in the Godowns at Fyzabad. I refused to sell them until I obtained the Begum's consent, which she granted me after a correspondence of three months; in the course of which I repeatedly solicited her to receive them back. They were in so bad a state, that I was obliged to give the purchaser six months credit; this bargain I even concluded with difficulty. There was no mode of disposing of the elephants, except to the Nabob, who bought them at fifteen hundred rupees an elephant.

I have, in compliance with your orders, applied to his Excellency to call upon the Begum to pay the balance of the account without further delay, and inform her, that no excuses can be admitted. She will certainly evade, and probably refuse. If you ultimately determine on enforcing this payment, I shall be under the necessity of applying to Colonel Morgan for Military Aid.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Your most obedient,
Humble Servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
the 31st March, 1783.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the receipt of your commands of the 6th instant, directing me to make known to the Company's servants at this place the 20th paragraph of the general letter from the Honourable Court of Directors, of the 2d July last, relative to Mr. George Bright, which I have accordingly done.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Your most obedient,
Humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
25th March, 1783.

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To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Coun.il, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon having proceeded to the neighbourhood of Anoopſier, agreeable to the plan propoſed in my addreſs of the 14th ultimo, I do myſelf the honour to encloſe No. 1, 2, and 3, copies of my correſpondence with that gentleman, explaining the alarming conſequences likely to ariſe from the drought on the frontiers of the Vizier's dominions; his Excellency's provinces have upon the whole, as I have repeatedly informed your Honourable Board, not been amply ſupplied. It is a very unhappy circumſtance that the ſituation of this country will not admit the gratification of the Vizier's feelings in a common principle of humanity, by aſſiſting the neceſſities of the people at Delhi, and on the frontier in general. The preſervation of the lives of his ſubjects is the firſt conſideration; and I hope, under theſe circumſtances, that the meaſures I have adopted, and the advice I mean to give his Excellency, which is to puniſh with the greateſt ſeverity all attempts to export grain, will meet with your approbation.

I beg leave to encloſe, No. 4, an extract of my addreſs to you on the 13th November laſt, relative to the prohibition given to Kajah Ain ul Dien not to ſuffer any exportation of grain that might affect the Vizier's dominions. The ſame order was afterwards, upon a ſimilar occaſion, iſſued to Almaſs Ally Cawn; and their conduct in conniving at the meaſures followed by their Naibs, and ſuffering the exportation, merit his Excellency's ſevereſt diſpleaſure.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
14th April, 1783. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Knudſon to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, dated Anoopſhier, March 31ſt, 1783.

I have the honour to inform you, that I arrived here this morning, with the detachment under my command, having marched hither by the route through which the Seiks made their incurſions in this diſtrict. I have beheld with concern the great depredations committed by theſe freebooters, wherever they have paſſed. By the ſeaſonable arrival of troops in theſe parts, the fear the people were under

under of a second attack from the Seiks has been removed, though report, I am of opinion, has been fabricated by the Zemindars themselves, to answer interested purposes; it operated so strongly on the minds of the Ryotts, that many of them left their habitations, and fled, as usual when threatened by an invasion, with their effects and families, to their * gurries. However, they are now beginning to come back to their villages, and resume their former acts of husbandry; so I hope this country will be speedily restored to tranquility.

The intelligence I have received during my March, and to this date, respecting the motion and numbers of the Seiks, has been conformable to the accounts given thereof in the Agra papers. As these people have assembled so large an army in the neighbourhood of Delhi, it is not improbable that they may extend their views further than to mere plunder. Affransiab Cawn is encamped about the distance of five coss from this city, near a place called Dampore; his force is said to consist of three battalions of Sepoys, fifteen hundred horsemen, with a train of artillery.

A true copy.
(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Asst. to the Resident at the
Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Knudson to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Jehanghierabad, April 8th, 1783.

I have the honour to inform you, that since I commenced my March from Futtigur I have addressed you three letters, bearing date the 20th, 27th, and 31st ultimo. From my passing Ramgaut it has been with the greatest difficulty I have been able to draw supplies of provisions from this country sufficient for the daily consumption of my detachment; and what small quantities I have procured, has been at an unusual high rate. This great scarcity of grain, in a country and at a season when it ought to be had cheap, and in great plenty, I am of opinion is not so much to be ascribed to the badness of the crop this year, or to the damage done to it by the inroads of the Seiks, as to the large exportation of grain from these parts to the westward of the Jumna. Agents from Delhy are employed all over the Doaub and Rohilcund to purchase grain for the exigency of that city and its vicinity. Banjoras, having from two to four thousand bullocks loaded with grain, are con-

* Forts.

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tinually croſſing to Delhy; to which place the Corn Merchants are induced to carry it, from the high price it bears there. In my letter to his Excellency the Vizier, which I beg the favour of you to preſent him with, I have repreſented to him the ſcarcity which prevails in our camp, and requeſted he would be pleaſed to grant an exemption of duty on all grain coming from Rohilcund to my detachment; which will be an inducement to the corn dealers to bring it to market, and beſides enable them to vend the ſame in our camp at ſuch eaſy rates as the pay of the troops will afford them to give therefore; for at preſent, I beg leave to aſſure you, that we pay near an 100 per cent. dearer here for all articles of proviſions, than "at Futti-"gur, although no duties whatever are levied thereon." The vicinity of this detachment to Delhy gives birth to various conjectures at that Court. His Majeſty, uneaſy under his preſent ſituation, conceives it to have been advanced hither more with a view to ſupport the political meaſures of Government, than to defend the Doaub againſt the Seiks. Affrauſiab Cawn has moved further to the weſtward, and is encamped now about twelve coſs from me, near a place called Khurjah. The intelligence I have received concerning the tranſactions of the Seiks, is that they are moving towards the eaſt again.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident
at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon, commanding a Detachment from the Troops on the Frontier Station, dated 14th April, 1783.

I have received your letters of the 31ſt ultimo and 8th inſtant; it is with great concern I underſtand the very ſerious conſequences that are likely to happen from the drought. The Vizier being abſent on a hunting party, it is impoſſible to obtain his inſtructions with that expedition which I could wiſh. The acting Miniſter however being on the ſpot, I have recommended to him that orders ſhould be iſſued in the moſt peremptory and poſitive terms to the Aumils and the Naibs of the frontier provinces, directing them to prevent the exportation of grain: copies of the orders I have the honour to encloſe. In the abſence of the Vizier I thought myſelf juſtified in writing letters to a ſimilar effect with thoſe from the acting Miniſter.

The

The emergency, in my opinion, is such, that if any neglect should happen on the part of the officers of the Vizier's government, and you conceive your interference will prevent the exportation, I authorize you to exert your the force under your command in doing it.

Khowja ain ul Dein and Almass Ally Cawn have long since been forbid from suffering grain to be exported in any quantities which were likely to encroach upon the wants of the inhabitants of the countries under their authority.

His Majesty and the Chiefs at Delhi have repeatedly applied to the Vizier; and it was in consequence of their applications those orders were issued.

I expect his Excellency will return in the course of two or three days, and I shall transmit his commands to you. I had the pleasure to answer your letters of the 20th and 27th ultimo on the 8th instant.

A true copy.

(Signed) Wm. COWPER.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable Governor General and Council, dated 13th November, 1782.

The scarcity at Delhy begins to rage to an alarming degree. The King has written to the Vizier, that orders may be sent to the Fousedars of Rohilcund to suffer grain to be exported from thence, which his Excellency has thought proper to comply with, but in such manner as not to affect his own dominions.

A true extract.

(Signed) JOHN NEAVE,
Asst. to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Enclosed I have the pleasure to transmit you the copy of a letter I this day received from Major Lumsdaine, informing me of his success against the rebel Rajah, Bulbudder Sing; this man has, for above twenty years past, created perpetual insurrections, and seized every opportunity of destroying the peace of the Vizier's Government: Though dispossessed of his Zemindarry for so long a period, you may judge the prejudices of the people, and the consequences of such an example, from his having the influence to collect large bodies of adherents, and committing depre-

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dations to the great impediment of the collections of the revenues. Orders have been issued for the execution of the prisoner, and the reward of 20,000 rupees to be distributed agreeable to the Vizier's proclamation.

Permit me particularly to recommend to your notice the conduct of Major Lumsdaine and the officers and troops employed on this service. Captain Jaques has distinguished himself by his zeal and activity in giving me his steady and firm support in the discharge of my duty; and I hope I shall meet with your indulgence in representing him to you as a deserving gallant officer.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, 21st April, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court, Lucknow.

Sir,

Permit me to acquaint you, that with one hundred and fifty rank and file of the 2d battalion, 20th regiment, and four and a half companies of the 29th, we this morning attacked the rebel Rajah, Bulbuddar Sing, and have taken him prisoner, with three others. The Rajah is so much wounded, that I believe he cannot live. I request your orders with respect to the disposal of the prisoners. Lieutenant Gaven commanded the detachment of the 20th regiment. Captain Jaques fell in with some of the fugitives in their retreat. The rebel was posted in the Sewalla Jungle, on the banks of the Narrah Nullah.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Camp, near the Narrah Nullah, 20th April, 1783. (Signed) J. LUMSDAINE, Major Comg. in Sahlone.

(A true copy)
(Signed) J. Hill, Asst.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to enclose, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, copies of my correspondence with Colonel Sir John Cumming and Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, and hope the measures followed to convince the Chiefs at Delhy of the Vizier's and the Honourable Company's amicable intentions, will be attended with the desired effect.

I have received his Excellency's answer to my representation on this subject, and he has thought proper, in consequence

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quence of my advice, to write letters to Mirza Shuffy, Affradifiab Cawn, and the Begum, to the fame purport as mine; of which I enclofed a copy in my letter, dated 19th inftant, to Colonel Sir John Cumming: It accompanies this addrefs, being the Perfian paper, No. 4.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, 21ft April, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW, Refident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Briftow, Refident at the Vizier's Court, dated Futty Ghur, April 14th, 1783.

Having obferved, in the papers of intelligence received this day from Delhy, that it has been reprefented to the King, that the detachment under Colonel Knudfon had plundered a place called Jehangier-abad, I thought it neceffary to write Colonel Knudfon on the fubject, a copy of which I enclofe for your perufal, as alfo an extract from the papers of news. I have ordered the detachment not to pafs the Vizier's boundary, as I apprehend it might be attended with difagreeable confequences.

Copy of Colonel Sir John Cumming's Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Knudfon, enclofed in the above Letter to Mr. Briftow, of the fame date.

In the papers of intelligence received this day from Delhy, I obferve there is mention made of your detachment having plundered a place called Jehangier-abad, belonging to his Majefty, and alfo that you have paffed the frontier of the Vizier's dominions. Though I have the ftrongeft affurance, in my own mind, that the intelligence is falfe, or mifreprefented, yet I think it neceffary that you fhould be informed fuch a report has prevailed at Delhy. Should it however have happened, that either through mifinformation or inadvertency, you have chofen a fpot for your encampment not within the Vizier's boundary, you will be pleafed immediately to remove your camp, and take up fome advantageous piece of ground within the limits of his Excellency's dominions. By the accompanying papers of intelligence, you will obferve, that the Chiefs in your neighbourhood are very jealous of your detachment; and it is probable that they may order fome of their own troops to encamp near you, and to obferve your motions; in fuch event, you will be particularly cautious to prevent people belonging to your camp from going to theirs—it frequently happens that very ferious confequences attend the difputes of individuals, however infignificant in themfelves; and in

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general I recommend it to you to guard as much as possible against giving any cause of jealousy or uneasiness to the King, or any of the people who live under his Government.

True copies.
(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Asst. to the Resident.

N. B. The Persian intelligence alluded to, and enclosed in the above letter, has nothing more in it than expressed by the Colonel.

Extract from Papers of Intelligence received from Delhi the 14th and 15th of April.

It was represented to the King, that the English army that was at Anoopsier had plundered a place called Jehangeer-abad, and that Affrasiab Cawn's battalion, on hearing of it, returned. A paper of news from Mirza Shefi's camp was laid before his Majesty: It was there mentioned, that he, Mirza Shufi, was going to meet the Pateel Sindia; and that he had wrote to Affrasiab Khan and Zeenulabideen Khan, forbidding them to march farther, because the English leaders had passed their boundary, and recommending to them to be watchful over their own places. It was represented, that Zeenulabideen Khan had intended to march farther, but had deferred it on account of Mirza Sheffi's letter. Affrasiab Cawn wrote Nasirud Dowlah that he had, agreeably to his (Mirza Shefi's) orders, sent Gazer Menichchund, and others, with four battalions and some horse, from Khorjah to Anoopsier, and that himself with his army should remain at Khorjah; and that, should the English army march farther, there would be nobody to prevent them; and that he was ignorant of their intentions.—It is reported here by many people, that should there be a want of good understanding between Nasuruddowlah and the English, he would engage the Seiks of his side, and that a disturbance would be the result. The Nazir was ordered to obtain daily intelligence from the English camp at Anoopseer, and to entertain fresh Hircarrahs for that purpose.—It was represented, that the gentlemen at Anoopseer had determined on going to Aurunghabad: Although this is not believed, the King replied, We need not be concerned at it; if they come, they will not be disobedient to my authority. It was represented that the English gentlemen were two coss from Aurungabad, and four coss from Affrasiab Cawn's army, and that Affrasiab was at Khorjah. Nasuruddowlah wrote Afrasiab Khan, that if the English army at Anoopseer should come towards

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towards him (Naseruddowlah) he ſhould not interrupt them; and if they marched towards Delhi, he ſhould prevent them; but if they continued within their own boundary, it was very well. The King conſulted Mahomud Kooli Khan, the Aſtrologer, with reſpect to the coming of the Engliſh, and the treatment he was to look for. The Aſtrologer replied, that he had previouſly predicted the particulars to his Majeſty; that the Engliſh leaders would come into the preſence perfectly obedient to his authority, and behave well; but that ſome contention would be the reſult. The King replied. I wiſh they would ſpeedily and quickly arrive, that it might prove the means of liberation to myſelf.

A true tranſlation.
(Signed) RALPH BROOME,
Perſian Interpreter to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Copy of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, dated Futty Ghur, April 15th, 1783.

Laſt night I tranſmitted you copy of a letter I wrote Colonel Knudſon, with an extract from papers of intelligence received from Delhy; the news of this day mentions that there is a diſtance of only four coſs between Colonel Knudſon's detachment and Affranſiab Cawn's army: Private letters received from gentlemen in the camp confirm the above account. I have received no letter from Colonel Knudſon of later date than the 4th inſtant, and I muſt ſay that I am not a little ſurprized at it. If it be true that the Chiefs round Delhy are ſo much alarmed at the approach of our troops as has been repreſented to me, it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe they will be very attentive to our motions. The greateſt apprehenſion I am under ariſes from the probability that ſome diſturbance may be expected before between the two bodies of troops by the private diſputes of individuals; to prevent any miſchiefs of this kind, and to remove every cauſe of jealouſy, I have ordered Colonel Knudſon to encamp within the Vizier's dominions, and if he has paſſed the boundary it was remote from my intention: Not having correct maps, or other information of the extent of his Excellency's territories on this ſide the Ganges, it was not in my power to draw the line within which to confine the detachment. I therefore left it to Colonel Knudſon to take any poſt within ten coſs above or below Anoopſhier, on the banks of the Ganges, as he might find moſt commodious.

Should the commiſſion of any act of hoſtility, or any other threatening appearance, make it neceſſary to reinforce

that

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that detachment, I intend marching with my whole remaining force to join them; in such an event it may not be expedient to wait the event delay of a formal requisition from the Vizier, and I must request you will take his sentiments on the subject, and communicate them to me as soon as possible. Having only three regiments remaining, the detachment with the Sezawul included, I should be obliged to take the whole force, and it would then become necessary that a regiment from Cawnpore should be ordered hither to take charge of the hospital, stores, &c. &c. this is an event which I hope will not happen; but as it is not impossible, nor even improbable, if my intelligence can be depended on, I think it adviseable to communicate to you my thoughts on the subject. As both the Vizier and yourself, without doubt, have the earliest and most authentic information of every occurence at Delhy, and the adjacent parts, I request you will inform me whether you think any hostile attempt is to be apprehended from the Chiefs of that neighbourhood. I do not mean to insinuate that it would be adviseable to withdraw the detachment; on the contrary, I think that measure would not only expose his Excellency's frontiers to the incursions of the Seiks, but be dishonourable to our arms, by giving the country powers reason to suppose that our safety was the cause of our retreat.

A true copy.

J. NEAVE,
Asst. to the Rest.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, of the same date as the above.

The ammunition of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson's detachment being calculated only for repulsing the Seiks, who never make any regular attacks, I am induced, by the representations I have stated to you in my letter of this day, to send an additional quantity. I purpose sending it on the other side of the river, till it arrive opposite to Anoopsier, under the charge of two companies of sepoys. I beg you will communicate this to his Excellency, and let me know his sentiments, both on this and the subject of my former letter of this date, as soon as possible. I hope you will be able to do it by return of Dawk, as I shall defer sending the ammunition till then.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Asst. to the Resident
at the Vizier's Court.

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Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated Lucknow, 17th April, 1783.

I have received your letters of the 13th, 14th, and two of the 15th inſtant.

The Vizier being ſtill abſent, I have the pleaſure to encloſe you copies of letters I this day addreſſed to * Affraſiab Cawn, and Myrza Shuffy Cawn, in which I have given an explanation of the object of the detachment at Anoopſier. I hope the precaution taken by Colonel Knudſon will prevent any bad conſequences ariſing from the neighbourhood of his camp, and that of Affraſiab Cawn; the inſtructions with which you have furniſhed him, perfectly agree with the ſentiments the Vizier expreſſed to me; and as I have tranſmitted the particulars to his Excellency, I ſhall furniſh you with his further commands, on receiving his anſwer.

As by Colonel Knudſon's letter of the 12th inſtant, it appears the Seiks are again in motion, as alſo for the reaſons you aſſign, I think it would be improper to recall the detachments. I apprized Major Browne of Colonel Knudſon's march, and I ſhould have hoped that gentleman would have made ſuch repreſentations as would have prevented any ſuſpicions. I have again wrote to him informing him of the circumſtances relative to the conduct of Affraſiab Cawn.

I take the liberty to encloſe you a copy of my addreſs to Colonel Knudſon of this date.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated Lucknow, 19th April, 1783.

On the 17th, I had the honour to addreſs you on the ſubject of your letters of the 14th and 15th, and ſhall now reply more particularly to them.

The execution of military ſervice depending upon your judgment, I have not addreſſed the Vizier for the information of the route you have ſettled for ſupplying Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon's detachment with ammunition; it is a matter on which you can only be competent to determine, both from your experience and local knowledge. I know of no enemy likely to intercept the eſcort.

Until I ſhall be honoured with the Vizier's commands, which I am diſappointed in not receiving before now, I muſt return you a ſimilar anſwer; with reſpect to the march of your detachment to ſupport Lieutenant Colonel

* *Vide Perſian Paper, No. 4.*

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Knudſon, you only can be the judge of the meaſure; at the ſame time, in reply to the opinion you require of me, regarding the intention of the Chiefs at Delhy, I am perſuaded, from every circumſtance concerning their ſituation, that there is not the leaſt apprehenſion of their being inclined to make any hoſtile attempts, their weakneſs, and the decided ſuperiority which the junction of a very ſmall body of the Honourable Company's troops would give to either party, muſt, I imagine, render them ſolicitous to afford ſatisfaction, and not give cauſe of umbrage to the Vizier. Suppoſing Affraſiab Cawn not to have been regularly informed of the march of the detachment, it certainly muſt have been a ſuſpicious appearance in his eyes; and I cannot be ſurprized that he ſhould ſtand upon the defenſive. I agree with you in opinion, that the only danger to be apprehended, is the probability of a diſturbance being excited by the private diſputes of individuals.

The encloſed paper, No. 1, * 2, and 3, convey the intelligence I have received regarding the opinion entertained by the Chiefs at Delhy relative to the march of the detachment, which I tranſmit, in order to corroborate what you have communicated to me.

Leſt Lieut. Col. Knudſon's letter to you ſhould have miſcarried, I trouble you with No. 4, a copy of his laſt to me of the 12th inſtant.

I have this day forwarded to Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon, a letter from Myrza Khullule to Affraſiab Cawn, requeſting that he would diſpatch it. The contents are the ſame purport as mine, of which you have already received a copy. Myrza Kullule has in like manner addreſſed the Begum and Mirza Shuffy. Theſe explanations, and the prudence of Lieut. Col. Knudſon, will, I hope, cauſe all jealouſies to ſubſide.

True copies.

J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident
at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, dated Jehanguerabad, April the 12th, 1783.

For his Excellency's information, I have the honour to inform you, that I have received intelligence that a body of Seiks are in motion towards the eaſtward. As their intention may probably be to paſs into Rohilcund, ſhould

* *This is the paper I refer to in my letter to Myrza Shuffy, of which I ſent you a copy on the 17th inſtant.*

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they find the entrance to it not well guarded, I am therefore anxious to know what force the Vizier keeps there, and where they are placed, that on any emergency these troops might be sent where there services could be best employed for the defence of that country. I also beg leave to inform you, that his Excellency's instructions to Khaja Ain ul Dine, the Aumil of Rohilcund, for transmitting me every intelligence which with regard to the motion of the Seiks, and other powers on the frontiers, has been fulfilled, which circumstance, as they are of moment to me, I ought to be apprized of. Owing to this omission I am left entirely in the dark regarding the measures adopted for the security of that great extent of country against an invasion.

The conduct of Affrasiab Cawn appears very suspicious; he has followed the marches of my detachment from Ramgaut hither, always encamping at the distance of four or five coss from it; he gives out, that he is devoted to the King's interest, intends to support his views in effecting a change in the Government; but as he is at the same time strengthening his forces by volunteers from all quarters, and carries on a close correspondence with Nawaub Nazil ul Dowla, the side he inclines to is easily perceived. Various are the reports circulated at Delhi respecting the destination of this detachment: It is generally believed, that it is to move to the capital. Affrasiab Cawn has taken post on the right road to it, for to watch our motions.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's, to Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, in Answer to the above, dated Lucknow, 17th April, 1783.

I have received your letter of the 12th instant; and I now enclose you a letter to Affrasiab Cawn, explaining the reasons for the march of your detachment under your command, which I hope will appear perfectly satisfactory.— You will do me the favour to send the letter, accompanied with assurances from yourself, of the most friendly intentions. Upon your quitting Futty Ghurr, I informed Major Browne of your march, and I should have hoped such explanation would have been given, as to have prevented all suspicions. I have also wrote to him by this night's dawk, informing him of the circumstances stated by you relative to Affrasiab Cawn.

On all future occasions you will oblige me by transmitting every information relative to the motions of your detachment, should any be necessary, to Major Browne, that he may give timely notice to the Omeer ul Omra, and every opinion of the Vizier's, or the Honourable Company's interference

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interference in the disputes between the Chiefs at Delhy, be set aside.

Khurjah Ain ul Dein has one thousand and seventy cavalry, and four battalions of Sepoys, or two thousand and eighty-seven infantry, stationed at the Ghauts of Darranegur, besides the troops acting with him. When he left this place, he seemed very confident of being able to defend his districts against the Seiks; and we have reason to believe he was right in his judgment, as their attempts to commit depredations had been repeatedly repulsed. Enclosed is the coppy of a letter I have written to Khaja Ain ul Dine.

The Vizier is still absent; but his sentiments, as communicated to me before his departure, were to confine your operations simply to the defence of his own dominions.

True copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE.

Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to enclose copies of my correspondence with Mr. Anderson respecting Myrza Jungle; and as his residence in the Honourable Company's provinces has received the Vizier's sanction, I request to know if it meets with your approbation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.
23d April, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and the Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I am honoured with the receipt of you letter of the 14th ultimo, and, agreeable to your permission, have paid to Mahomed Saiid Cawn, on account of the Russaulah of his brother Abdul Rhamaun Cawn, at Surat, with the Bengal detachment, the sum of thirty thousand rupees, and have taken a bond of indemnification from him, in case there should be any objection to the paying it.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
2d May, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To

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To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

In order to provide against the alarming consequences of a scarcity, the Vizier has thought proper to publish a proclamation in Lucknow, prohibiting any individual from purchasing a quantity of grain at one time, exceeding five rupees in value. I have, with his Excellency's approbation, written to the Resident at Benares, the Chief of Patna, and Messrs. Grame and Bathurst, requesting them to encourage the merchants in importing grain into the Vizier's dominions.

Mahomed Cawnzin Cawn, the Aumil of Luttanfut's jaghyr and jaydaid, having informed me that Nutta Cawn, the Cutwaul of the Sayer of Rohilcund, has, in opposition to the Vizier's express orders, suffered grain to be exported from the Gauts of Jayoree and Nuggeree, I have advised his Excellency to punish the delinquent, and placed guards at those Gauts.

I have addressed Colonel Morgan and Sir John Cummings, requesting them to encourage the Catwaul and merchants in their buzars, to make their purchases of grain in the Honourable Company's provinces; and I beg leave to submit to your consideration the expediency of remitting, on this emergency, the heavy duties levied on that article in the Zemindary of Benares.

In my address of the 21st ultimo, I informed you of the alarm taken by the Chiefs of Delhy, at the march of the detachment under the command of Colonel Knudson. I have the pleasure to inform you, that the most satisfactory letters have since been received from Affrasiab Cawn, and Mirza Shuffle, expressing every disposition to preserve the good understanding subsisting between them and the Vizier's government.—The enclosed extracts of letters from Major Browue, dated the 21st and 26th ultimo, will explain the precautions he had taken on that occasion previous to the receipt of my application to him on the subject.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
5th May, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

True copies.

E. Hay,
Acting Secretary to the Secret Department.

Extracts

Extracts of letters from Major James Browne, to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

The 21st April, 1783.

Respecting the detachment at Anoopshire, I beg leave to inform you, that though it is very probable that troops belonging to the Affrasiab Cawn may have watched its motions, yet I believe that he has not been near them himself, but at Khurjah. Soon after the march of that detachment Affrasiab Cawn wrote the Ameer ul Ormah, that he learned the English and the Vizier were on their march to Delhy, and advised the Ameer ul Omrah to be upon his guard. As I had long before satisfied the latter regarding our intentions, he paid no further attention to this intelligence, than to communicate it to me; upon which I wrote to Affrasiab Cawn, in nearly the words as you have now done. At the same time engaged myself to the Amir ul Omrah, that those troops should never advance without my previously advising him; with which declaration he was perfectly satisfied. All that you are pleased to require of me, therefore, is already done.

Great pains have been taken to alarm the Amir ul Omrah respecting the English; but he has shewn a steadiness that has quite discountenanced the idle and malicious suspicions of others.

The 26th April, 1783.

I have the pleasure to enclose you a letter from Mirza Khulleel, also a copy of one of which I have just received from Afrasiab Cawn, by his which you will perceive his friendly disposition to the English nation, and the little regard due to the news writers.

12 True extracts
(Signed) J. HILL.
Assistant to the Resident.

List of Bills of Exchange.

1st bill Drawn by Doorka Doss Mooty Chund, of Lucknow, on Gopaul Doss Hurkissen Doss of Calcutta, dated Juite Sud 10, or the 9th June, at 60 Ds. St. for Ca. Sa. Rs. —	5,50,000 — —	
1 Ditto, Do. Do.	5,00,000 — —	
1 Ditto, Do. Do.	3,00,000 — —	
		13,50,000 — —
1 Ditto, by Mutfoora Doss Gunneick Doss, upon Secoram Doss Gunneick Doss, dated 10th Jute Sud, at 60 Ds. Do.		50,000 — —

1 Ditto

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1 Ditto, by Gopaul Doſs Munnowar Doſs, on Gopaul Doſs Hurkiſſen Doſs, dated the 7th Cheyte, or 25th March, at 81 Ds. Do. for Cs. Sa. Rs 9,000 — —	
1 Ditto, Do. Do. Do. 7,006 — —	
1 Ditto, Do. Do. Do. 6,000 — —	
	22,000 — —
1 Ditto, Do. by Gowaul Doſs Seoram Doſs, on Seoram Doſs Guneiſh Doſs dated the 7th Cheyte, or 25th March, at 81 Ds. Do. — — —	2,100 — —
1 Ditto, drawn by Gopul Doſs Munnowar Doſs, on Gopaul Doſs Hurkeſſen Doſs, dated 13th Cheyte, or 31ſt March, at 81 Ds. Do. — —	7,500 — —
1 Ditto, Do. by Gowaul Doſs on Seoram Doſs Gunneiſh Doſs, dated the 13th Cheyte, or 31ſt March, at 81 Ds. Do.	6,000 — —
1 Ditto, drawn by Gopaul Doſs Munnower Doſs, on Gopaul Doſs Hurkeſſen Doſs, dated 19rh Cheyte, or 6th April, at 81 Ds. Do. — —	3,500 — —
1 Ditto, drawn by Gowal Doſs Seoram Doſs, on Seoram Doſs Gunneiſh Doſs, dated 19th Cheyte, or 6th April, at 81 Ds. Do. — — —	1,500 — —
1 Ditto, drawn by ditto, Do. dated 11th Jeite, or 27th May, at 81 Ds. Do.	2,000 — —
1 Ditto, drawn by Gopaul Doſs Munnower Doſs, on Gopaul Doſs Hurkiſſen doſs, dated 11th Jute, or 27th May, at 81 Ds. Do. — — —	10,000 — —
1 Ditto, Do. by Tague Chund Mohunaloll Kiſſen Chund, on Gopaul Doſs Hurkiſſen Doſs, dated 21ſt Jeite, or 6th June, at 81 Ds. Do. — —	45,400 — —
15 bills Calcutta Sicca rupees —	15,00,000 — —

Errors excepted.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,

Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

From Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khaun, written on the 9th of Jummaud u Sauni A. H. 1197, or 12th May, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

I have received your favour, in reply to my letter of inquiry and requiſition, reſpecting a day to be fixed for the

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delivery of your anſwer to the different articles of the general plan.—You obſerve that I ſay one thing, and write another.—My friend, my communications written and verbal are the ſame; for I all along recommended to you to carry into immediate execution ſuch parts of the plan in queſtion as it might now be adviſeable to execute, and that the reſt might be carried into effect at the beginning of the year; but it is abſolutely neceſſary that the previous diſpoſition, with regard to all the parts of it, ſhould be made immediately, that before the commencement of the enſuing year, every thing neceſſary thereto may be in readineſs, and the bundobuſt of the Mahalauts ſettled: Accordingly, all the particulars relative thereto are inſerted in the articles before-mentioned, and correſponding to the date particularized in my letter of yeſterday, you engaged to deliver to me in writing your opinion and advice oppoſed to each of the different articles. Whence then is this obſervation reſpecting a difference between my written and verbal declaration? Procraſtination in matters of ſuch importance cannot be admitted; therefore I repeat my requeſt, that you will fix a particular day on which to tranſmit to me your explicit anſwer to the articles in queſtion, that I may tranſmit the ſame to the Governor General.

Concludes as uſual.

True copies.

E. HAY,

Acting Secretary to the Secret Department.

From the Nuvvaub Vizier to the Governor General: Received at Calcutta, July 17th, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

From the beginning of the friendly connections between the Engliſh Company, and you, and the Gentlemen of the Council, and the late Nuvvaub and myſelf, no failure ever happened on his or on my part; he ſtill was, and I have ſtill been firm and ſteadfaſt in our friendſhip, and with the bleſſing of God, while I breathe the breath of life, no failure or deficiency ſhall happen on my part; you alſo, on your part, have been attentive to the duties of friendſhip and affection, and the amity between us has flouriſhed.—Other gentlemen who have reſided here, have paid due regard to the ſtations and dignity of both, in the conduct of public affairs; but Mr. Briſtow, who has come appointed to reſide here, has by many and various actions thrown diſgrace and ignominy upon me, and perſeveres in doing ſo; and I have in conſequence thereof heretofore troubled you with a full account of my ſituation; I am, with my life and fortune, firm and ſteadfaſt in my friendſhip, and from

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my heart am ready to aſſiſt the intereſts of the Company. Why will you cover me with ſhame and diſgrace by the hand of Mr. Briſtow? I cannot longer, by any means whatever, ſubmit to the behaviour of this Gentleman. In the ſtyle of ſupplicants imploring redreſs, I now addreſs you, if you will be pleaſed to recall Mr. Briſtow from hence, it is well—my ſervices for the benefit of the Company are ready in any manner you ſhall preſcribe: But if the removal of Mr. Briſtow ſhould by no means whatever be agreeable to you be it ſo—I am without reſource, ſince not the leaſt degree of confidence any longer ſubſiſts be-between me and that Gentleman. Quitting this place with my family, my brothers, my relations, and my friends, I ſhall come to Calcutta—you will act as you may deem moſt conducive to the honour and reputation of the Engliſh name. As the brother of my father, I have, during theſe laſt five months, ſucceſſively made known to you the diſ-treſſes of my heart; and I now moſt ſolemnly ſwear by my religion, and my faith therein, that in caſe Mr. Briſtow is to ſtay here, I will not ſtay here—I ſhall come to you.

Concludes as uſual.

P. S. In the Nuvvaub Vizier's own hand.

My friend, I am, with my life, and from my heart, ready to aſſiſt the intereſts of the Company in any manner you ſhall preſcribe —I can no longer bear with the conduct of Mr. Briſtow; I intreat you to recall that Gentleman, otherwiſe I ſhall come to you with my relations and dependants.

From Hyder Beg Khawn to the Governor General: Received at Calcutta, July the 3d, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

Mr. Briſtow's conduct towards his Highneſs and towards me, I have repeatedly repreſented to you. His Highneſs cannot thank you ſufficiently for the kindneſs you have ſhewn in his behalf; inclined as you are, by your friendſhip and your juſtice, to pay attention to his ſituation, through God's favour and your protection, his Highneſs is fully ſatisfied, that at all events that which will be conſiſtent with his honour will be done, a circumſtance which will add to your own honour and reputation.

The firſt wiſh of his Highneſs, and of us the Miniſters, is your firm eſtabliſhment in the ſeat of power and authority; and I have given thanks to God for the happy and frequently repeated aſſurances on this ſubject which you have received from Europe, conſidering them as the ſource and foundation of my future exiſtence: His Highneſs's ſatiſfaction on the occaſion is great beyond deſcription. May the

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the Almighty God ever continue you on the musnud of power and authority, the director of the affairs of mankind!—This prayer is mine, and may it be the prayer of all good men!

Mr. Bristow, now that he has heard the representations made to you, and of their being laid before the Board, has in the spirit of resentment, compared with his former oppressive conduct, redoubled his persecution towards his Highness and me.

His Highness is every way ready to obey your pleasure, and considers the payment of the Company's money as his first and most important object. On this subject it has been repeatedly represented to you, that with your countenance and favour it can be well and duly effected.

Mr. Bristow having been informed of the representations made by his Highness and me, and actuated by resentment, is endeavouring to conduct every measure in such manner as may reflect indignity upon me, and deprive me of the executive powers of my office.

Thus the plan and Coulnoumeh corresponding with his own views, and grounded on the alarming intelligence of your removal from the government, which he at first proposed, and which I formerly represented fully to you, as soon as he obtained information of his Highness's communications and mine, and of your intentions to cause justice to be done, he changed for others, which he delivered in writing. The reply which I made to one of the articles contained in Mr. Bristow's plan, is submitted to your inspection. Under that article the determination of Mr. Bristow to expel me from my office is apparent.

Mr. Bristow, by the advice of Ishmael Beg, has forme a resolution to change the old and established Aumils of the Sircar, such as Almaus Alli Chawn, &c. and he declares, that on the approaching commencement of the new year, he will appoint a Treasurer and Comptroller over the household establishment; those of the beasts of carriage and burthen, domestic, &c. of his Hightness's Surcar; that he will appoint the Mootasuddies of the Persian Dufter; that he will have a separte building for each separate office, and station guards to the same; that the monies forthcoming from the Jauidaud Mahalaut of his Highness's Houshold shall be received there; ahd that he will issue with his owh hand such sums as may be necessary for his Highness's expences: In all probability, he will now carry all these measures into executiou—whatever may be your pleasure, respecting them, be pleased to make it known.

The Aumils who have been this year employed under the protection, and agreeably to the choice of Mr. Bristow, have

have not, down to the preſent time, even ſent in their accounts to the Surcar.

The plan which had been ſettled at the beginning of the year, that plan Mr. Briſtow changed on the inſtant of his arrival; and the change has been attended with loſs to his Highneſs's Surcar. Vain and confident in himſelf, it is Mr. Briſtow's deſire that no one but himſelf ſhall have any concern in any affairs whatever; ſome of the particulars conſequent to the change of ſyſtem, which Mr. Briſtow executed in a vain reliance on his own knowledge, and which has been attended with loſs to the Sircar, I preſume to lay before you.

Thus for the monies on account of the bills granted by the Gomaſtahs of Gopaul Daus Sauhoo, and others, a Tumuſſook was given by Almaus Alli Khawn, who on the ſame day paid into the Gomaſtahs of Gopaul Duas the ſum of four lacks of rupees; Mr. Briſtow, two days before his arrival, directed the Gomaſtahs of Gopaul Daus to return the Tummuſſook of Almaus Alli Khawn, and to take his in exchange. As the credit of Almaus Alli Khawn is eſtabliſhed amongſt the Mahagins, by the ſtrictneſs and punctuality with which he performs his encouragements, the Gomaſtahs of Gopaul Doſs heſitated in taking Mr. Briſtow's Tummuſſook: Mr. Briſtow, by anger and by threats, forced from them the Tummuſſook of Almaus Alli Khawn, and returned it to him, and delivered one under his own ſeal, to the Gomaſtahs of Gopaul Daus.

If Almaus Alli Khawn's Tummuſſook had continued with them, the ſums payable to the merchants would have been diſcharged by the end of the month Poos. The Cubbooleat of Almaus Alli Khawn, on account of Khierabad and Mahummudu, was free from expences or deductions for a jammah of twelve lacks fourteen thouſand rupees; ſeven lacks fifty thouſand rupees of the amount of Jauidaud to the Mahagins, for which Almaus Alli Khawn had given a tummuſſook in full, was payable from theſe Mahalauts. When Almaus Alli Khawn's tummuſſook was exchanged, the Mahalauts of Khierabad and Mahummudu, agreeably to the orders of Mr. Briſtow, were continued to Mahummud Hooſſain Khawn, from whom Mr. Briſtow, down to the preſent time has not received, an account of the annual revenue, above three lacks of rupees, ſomething more or leſs, of the Mootayaneh troops ſtationed there, whoſe tankhaw was ſettled for ſix months pay, two months to ſome, and three months to others, is all that has as yet been received by them, and thoſe troops are in the greateſt diſtreſs and diſorder; moreover, a Major and a regiment of Engliſh Sepoys are and have been with Mahummud Hooſſain Khawn, from the beginning down to the preſent time.—

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To the end of the year perhaps another lack of rupees may be paid in, but even this is doubtful; thus the revenue has been diminshed whilst the expences have been encreased.

Other Aumils have paid, from the Mahalauts of Allahabad, &c. eight lacks eleven thousand rupees, free from expences or deductions, to the last Daum. Mirza Ismael Beg, now Aumil, declares that the gross collections will amount to no more than six lack forty thousand rupees; at the same time that he declares the expences in those Mahalauts to be treble the amount of those heretofore established; whenever he may give in his accounts the whole will be understood.

Five lacks of rupees were granted in Jauidaud to the Company on Furrukhabad. Sind Mahummed Saueed Khawn had engaged for the due payment of the whole, and he regularly discharged his kists, as long as he continued there. Mr. Bristow, by the advice, and at the recommendation of Ismael Beg, sent Mahummud Beg as Suzzauwal to Furrukhabad, contrary to the inclinations of his highness, the accounts have not been received, but a considerable balance is as yet outstanding; the total payable from this Jauidaud will not be received. Similar circumstances, respecting other places under recommended Aumils, shall be laid before you whenever the accounts are delivered in.

Several persons who were formerly employed, and who have been laid aside on account of mismanagement, are the very persons whom Mr. Bristow wants to employ, and appoint to the management of the Mahalauts; in determining and proposing the people to be employed, he acts as if his Highness had no sort of connection with this country. Mr. Bristow is the actual ruler; to whatever place he himself resolves on the appointment of any one, these are his orders, "Let this person be put into this employment." If the Aumils are appointed by the authority of Mr. Bristow, it must reflect disgrace upon his Highness, and in the same manner that loss to the Surcar has been hitherto sustained by the appointments of recommended Aumils, so hereafter the case will be the same. In this respect, whatever your pleasure may be, be pleased to make it known.

If the Aumils may be appointed at his Highness's discretion, I will undertake to procure the dismission of such Aumils as are unfit for employment, and for the appointment of others, men of ability and good character, as shall be made known to you after those appointments have taken place.

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The motives which have induced me to presume on making this representation, respecting these affairs, and to request to know your pleasure, are, that Mr. Bristow, being of a violent and unreflecting disposition, endeavours to effect his objects by threats and severity; his Highness, on the other hand, considering these circumstances as causes of disgrace to him, hesitates to comply; and Mr. Bristow accuses me of disobedience of orders;—so situated, and in such circumstances, whatever your orders may be, those I will obey, for by your hand I was lifted from the dust, and from you I hold my present credit and reputation.

In the course of the current year I represented to Mr. Bristow, that if he pleased to order it, I would appoint Tehveeldars from amongst the different Mahagins to the Mahalauts, so that the monies assigned to the Company should be regularly received, kist by kist; but as it is not the pleasure of Mr. Bristow that affairs should be conducted by my interposition, he did not approve of transacting business with the Mahagins through me.

Concludes as usual.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn, written on the 8th of the Month Suffer, A. H. 1197, or 13th January, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 30th June, 1783.

Usual introduction.

Considering the bad state of affairs at Furrukabad, it is necessary that Marza Mahummud Beg should receive his dismission as soon as possible; he will be introduced to you by this letter; you will give him his dismission today, and in such manner that it may be unknown to every one. I am informed, to my great concern, of your indisposition, and pray for the recovery of your health. The two Shoccahs which you have written, and sent agreeably to the drafts transmitted, are returned—you will receive them inclosed. The Shoccahs which you wrote, and sent according to former directions, I consider as extremely proper and sufficient.

Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn; written on the 11th of Rubba ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 14th February, 1783.

Copy: Received 28th March, 1783.

Usual introduction.

A list of the Purwanehs issued by the Nuvvaub Vizier to the respective Aumils, on account of the Tunkhaw monies for the expences of the household, together with

 a statement

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a ſtatement of the particular ſums, accompany this letter, but I have kept the Purwanehs in my own hands, as they have not received the ſignature and ſeal of the Vizier.

If by another effort you can bring the buſineſs to a concluſion, agreeably to my wiſhes, ſo much the better; if not, it will be neceſſary that letters, agreeably to the incloſed draft, be written by me and by you, and tranſmitted to the Aumils. In caſe the Nuvvaub ſhould refuſe his aſſent, you will write the letters from yourſelf, correſponding with the encloſed draft, and bring them with you, as I ſhall ſend them off to-morrow, with my own letters, which are now ready, and written to the ſame purport to the Aumils.

The Governor General is, at all events, determined on the improvement of the Nuvvaub's affairs; from my reliance on you I have been led to poſtpone this matter during a long period; but as I conſider the further procraſtination of it as a breach of the Governor General's orders, and as the cauſe of the diſarrangement of all public buſineſs, therefore, from an attention to the regulation of affairs in general, it is out of my power to defer it any longer. Thus, in conſequence of my friendſhip for you, I have not, down to the preſent time, which includes a period of three or four months, communicated the accompanying extract from the Governor General's letter, having ſtill relied on you for the accompliſhment of this buſineſs: now, from abſolute neceſſity, I write you plainly to reflect, and meditate with attention, on the miſchiefs which muſt follow to you from delay in ſuch matters as theſe; ſuch delay being the cauſe of the diſorder and diſarrangement of all affairs.

In ſhort, you ſay that the Nuvvaub Vizier refuſes to liſten to your repreſentations in this buſineſs; this too is full of danger with reſpect to you: you are the Nuvvaub Vizier's deputy, poſſeſſing unlimited authority; yet you repreſent and lay before him meaſures of importance, and are unable to obtain his aſſent to them. Whenever the confidence of the Nuvvaub Vizier is withdrawn from you, and neceſſary meaſures can no longer be carried into execution, the buſineſs is at an end. I am every way diſpoſed to countenance and ſupport you, but I cannot deviate from the orders of the Governor General.

It is proper that you do not poſtpone this buſineſs, or the muſter of the Toorkſuvvaurs, beyond our meeting to-morrow morning.

Let no one but you and I obtain a knowledge of the contents of this letter.

Concludes as uſual.

Extract

Extract from a Letter to Hyder Beg Khawn from the Governor General, written on the October, 1782, and inclosed to Mr. Bristow.

I write this thus plainly to you from two motives; the first is, to shew how thin the veil is by which you attempt to cover this policy, and of course to convince you that I shall receive and construe every similar declaration, however made to me from the Nuvvaub, and every letter written in his name, tending to destroy or lessen the friendship subsisting between us, as your declaration, as your letter: the 2d is, that as I do not so much ascribe these artifices to you, as to the evil counsels and encouragements which you have lately received from other persons, whose names I need not mention, you may see and know on what terms you may expect hereafter to retain that friendship and support which I have hitherto given you. For the rest I refer you to Mr. Bristow, to whom, both verbally and in writing, I have communicated every tittle of my sentiments, intentions, and expectations upon the subject.

Narrative and Substance of different Conversations respecting the Appointment of a Treasurer and Comptroller for the Nuvvaub's Household Establishment.

Received, March 3d, 1783.

Altercations have been for some time past carried on between the Nuvvaub and Mr. Bristow, respecting the appointment of a Treasurer and Comptroller, under the authority of the latter, to the Vizier's household establishments, and for issuing pay to the Toorksuvvaurs; what has lately occurred on this subject is as follows: I represented to the Nuvvaub, that as Mr. Bristow proposed those appointments in consequence of orders from the Governor General and Council, it was necessary and proper that he should comply with the pleasure of the Governor. His Highness replied, "In this case I shall be deprived "absolutely of all power and respectability. I cannot believe that the Governor has given such directions with "respect to me." I represented that, as Mr. Bristow declared them to be the Governor's orders, he should comply; that information should afterwards be transmitted to the Governor General, with whose pleasure, if it should prove to have been so, he would of course chearfully comply; on the contrary, if it should turn out to be otherwise, the Governor himself would forbid the measure. His Highness wept immoderately: he said, that he was persecuted day and night; that Mr. Bristow did not allow him

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him a moment's reſpite; that he now wanted to prevent his enjoying in peace and quietneſs even the little which he did get; that his friends and relations did not obtain the leaſt proviſion in lieu of their ſequeſtered Jageers; that Mr. Briſtow had forbid him to write his ſituation to the Governor, telling him, he muſt not correſpond on theſe affairs; that he was without reſource; that as Mr. Briſtow formerly told him that neither he nor Hyder Beg ſhould interfere in the appointment of the Treaſurer and Comptroller, or in the diſburſements, but that he, the Nuvvaub, ſhould make thoſe appointments by his own authority, that he would go himſelf, and in perſon anſwer Mr. Briſtow on this ſubject.

His Highneſs went accordingly, and told Mr. Briſtow that by nominating and appointing a Treaſurer and Comptroller, he diſgraced and rendered him, the Nuvvaub, contemptible; and that without obtaining any thing for himſelf but a bad name. Mr. Briſtow replied, that ſuch were the orders of the gentlemen of the council, and that his Highneſs muſt appoint Seetul Raum Treaſurer, and Tahakoor Daus Comptroller, as the perſons fixed upon and recommended by him, Mr. Briſtow. His Highneſs anſwered, that Tippur Chund was the old and eſtabliſhed Treaſurer to the troops, and deſired that he might be continued; that the iſſuing pay to the Toorkſavvaurs, &c. had all along been in his hands, and therefore propoſed that he ſhould continue to iſſue it: and with reſpect to his propoſed appointment of Tahakoor Daus to the Comptrollerſhip of the houſehold, that Mirza Mahummud Huſſen was the Comptroller, that Tahakoor Daus might be appointed his deputy or manager; that the money for the payment of the Toorkſuvvaurs ſhould be paid in to him, the Nuvvaub; that he, as heretofore, would ſend it to the Rajah Tippur Chund, and that Tippur Chund would iſſue it; Mr. Briſtow, it appears, conſented to this arrangement. I was not preſent at the preceding interview.

Some time afterwards Mr Briſtow gave the charge of the money for the payment of the Toorkſuvvaurs to Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Cooper appointed a Treaſurer on his own part to iſſue it to them, and cauſed ſhoccahs to be written to the Aumils, directing them to include the Tunkhaw monies for the payment of the Toorkſuvvaurs in the amount of the Company's Tunkhaw, and remit the whole to Mr. Briſtow.

Mr. Briſtow ordered me to cauſe the Nuvvaub's ſeal to be put to thoſe ſhoccahs, and further directed that I ſhould cauſe a houſe in the city to be procured, where the treaſury for the diſburſements to the houſehold eſtabliſhments

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ſhould be kept; and ſaid that he would ſtation a Subadar and guard of his own for the protection of the Treaſury.

In obedience to Mr. Briſtow's order I affixed the ſeal to the ſhoccahs, which drew upon me the Nuvvaub's diſpleaſure: he obſerved that Mr. Briſtow had firſt agreed that thoſe officers ſhould be under his, the Nuvvaub's authority; that he had now cauſed ſhoccahs to be written, as juſt related, and had given them in charge to Mr. Cooper; that Mr. Cooper had appointed a Treaſurer under him, and that the money which had arrived from the payment of the Toorkſuvvaurs had been delivered to Mr. Cooper's Treaſurer; that Mr. Briſtow demanded a ſeparate houſe for the houſehold Treaſury, where he would place a Subadar and guard of his own: hence it was evident he had broken his engagements, and was about to diveſt him of his Government altogether—that he would not conſent to it.

The Nuvvaub ſent the following meſſage to Mr. Briſtow, by the people who came from him to confer with his Highneſs on this ſubject: "That Mr. Briſtow had agreed "with him upon other arrangements, and that he had "now introduced others very different; that to ſuch ar-"rangements he would not conſent." From the time when Mr. Briſtow declared to the Nuvvaub that I ſhould not have any concern in affairs, but that he, the Vizier, ſhould ſettle and mannage them at his own pleaſure and diſcretion, I had withdrawn myſelf altogher.

When the Nuvvaub ſent the preceding anſwer, Mr. Briſtow addreſſed himſelf to me; ſaid, "The Nuvvaub "had broken his promiſe; that he, Mr. Briſtow, had "propoſed Seetul Raum to fill the office of Treaſurer, "and that the Vizier had mentioned the Rajah Tippur "Chund for the head of the public Treaſury, and he now "inſiſted he ſhould only have the payment of the troops; "that he, Mr. Briſtow, would not conſent to this; that "it was the orders of the gentlemen of the council, that "all the diſburſements ſhould be controlled and directed "by him, and therefore he would take the whole of the "Treaſury department into his own hands." I replied, That as he had himſelf declared to the Nuvvaub that I ſhould have no concern or authority therein, I had declined all interference; that I had written and delivered to him the ſhoccahs reſpecting the Toorkſuvvaurs, in obedience to his orders; and that the Nuvvaub alſo was diſpleaſed with me on this account that I was unacquainted with what had paſſed between him and the Vizier. I added, "The Vizier ſays, that you had left the whole to his ma-"nagement, that you afterwards broke through that en-"gagement, and cauſed ſhoccahs to be written, including "the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs in the Tunkhaw of

"the Company, and that you have given the monies "received in charge to Mr. Cooper, who has appointed a "Treasurer of his own." And you declare, that the Nuvvaub has retracted his promise. Mr. Bristow in reply told me, that I must inform the Nuvvaub that he would act as he had declared; that he had the positive orders of the gentlemen of the council in this respect; that the Treasury and disbursements should be under his management. I answered, That such were the messages he sent to the Nuvvaub by me, while he, on the contrary, told him that he should use his own pleasure in the conduct of affairs; that I would carry the message agreeably to his orders, and desired to know his pleasure, in case the Nuvvaub should not be pleased to consent. Mr. Bristow replied, "That "at all events he would do as he had declared, let the "Nuvvaub be pleased or displeased;" and demanded, "whether I would or would not pay obedience to the or-"ders of the Governor General, and the Gentlemen of "the Council?" I answered, that while I had life, I would comply with all such directions as he should give to me, agreeably to the orders of the Governor General and Council; that I was obedient to his authority; that I had hitherto fulfilled all his commands, and that I was still ready to obey them.

Agreeably to Mr. Bristow's orders, I delivered his message to the Vizier, who said, in reply, that Mr. Bristow had deviated from his agreement with him, and that he would not consent; that he would go and answer Mr. Bristow in person: while we were engaged in this conversation, information arrived that Mr. Bristow was coming to the presence. He and Mr. Cooper came shortly after, and I retired.

The Nuvvaub and Mr. Bristow conversed for some time, and then the Vizier ordered me to be called in. What had passed previous to this, I am unacquainted with, but on my return Mr. Bristow told the Nuvvaub before me, that by the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council, he was directed to take into his own hands all the disbursements for the Nuvvaub's household establishments, and the payment of the troops of the Sercor. The Nuvvaub replied, That Mr. Bristow had told him that neither he nor I should have any concern in these affairs, but that he, his Highness, should himself appoint both the Treasurer and Comptroller, and order his own disbursements at his pleasure; that now Mr. Bristow had given the money for the payment of the Toorksuvvaurs in charge to Mr. Cooper, who had appointed a Treasurer to act under him, and that he had caused shoccahs to be written to the Aumils without his knowledge, directing those mo-

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nies in future to be included in the Company's Tunkhaw; that Mr. Briſtow had agreed that the payment of the houſehold eſtabliſhment, expences, and ſervants, ſhould be at his diſpoſal—had agreed to the Comptrollerſhip of Mirza Mahummud Huſſun, and to the Deputy Comptrollerſhip of Tahakoor Daus; that now he inſiſted on the name of Mirza Mahummud Huſſun being ſtruck out, and that thoſe offices ſhould be ſubject to his authority: "Hence," added the Nuvvaub, "it is evident to me, "that you are about to diveſt me of my rights altogether; "if ſuch are the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council, "give them to me in writing, and I will act in obedience "to thoſe orders; my ſeal is at hand, I will ſend it to "you, and then you may manage as you may think beſt. "I will ſhut up the doors of my houſe, there I will ſit, "and ſeclude myſelf from all ſociety."

Mr. Briſtow replied, That the depoſition of his Highneſs was not intended; that what he ſaid proceeded from a regard to his welfare; that it would be better for his Highneſs to comply with willingneſs; that he would give to him in writing the orders he had received from the Gentlemen of the Council; that if his Highneſs would not comply willingly, it was well; he might ſend his ſeal to him, and he would carry thoſe orders into execution.

I repreſented to the Nuvvaub, in the preſence of Mr. Briſtow, that ſuch diſputes between them were improper; that it would be better to act with harmony, and in conjunction with each other. The Nuvvaub turned to me in rage, and replied, "He made agreements with me, and is "acting in oppoſition to thoſe agreements; nay, he even "now ſays that he will act thus. You ſeize me by the "throat, and will not ſuffer me to ſpeak." In a word, at the concluſion of this converſation, Mr. Briſtow got up in diſpleaſure, and returned home.

I waited upon him there. He told me that at all events he muſt carry this meaſure into execution; that his Highneſs had refuſed to give the ſhoccahs; that he himſelf would write letters to the Aumils, and that I muſt write letters alſo. I replied, That I was in every reſpect ready to obey his orders, but deſired to know his determination in caſe I ſhould fall under the Nauvaub's diſpleaſure. He replied, that in that caſe he would ſupport and protect me. I deſired to know whether, if the Nuvvaub ſhould deliver his ſeal, I ſhould bring it? He replied, if the Nuvvaub gives you his ſeal, bring it, if not, I will write the letters from myſelf: the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council to me are poſitive, "that whether the Nuvvaub is pleaſed or diſ"pleaſed, I ſhall at all events carry this meaſure into ex"ecution, and I will now execute them." I anſwered,

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that agreeably to the orders I had received from the Governor, I was obedient to his directions; and I took leave, and returned home.

As Mr. Briſtow's diſpoſition is violent and precipitate, he wrote me a letter on the evening of the ſame day: a copy of his letter, together with a copy of what I wrote in reply, accompany this.

In the morning I waited upon Mr. Briſtow again: he ſaid to me, that at all events I muſt obtain the Nuvvaub's conſent; that delay in the execution of the meaſure he had propoſed reflected diſgrace upon him.—I obſerved, that he refuſed to comply with the Nuvvaub's propoſals.—He replied, the object was to do the buſineſs effectually; that the name of Mirza Mahummed Huſſun ſhould be ſtricken out—that Tahakoor Daus ſhould be the Comptroller to the houſehold eſtabliſhments; that Dawaurgau Daus ſhould be the Treaſurer; and that Raja Tipper Chund ſhould be Treaſurer, as heretofore, for the payment of the troops.

I went and communicated the foregoing to the Nuvvaub; his Highneſs replied, that he ſhould be diſgraced by theſe new appointments of Treaſurer and Comptroller, but he was without remedy; he would comply with Mr. Briſtow's pleaſure on certain conditions, viz. that as he forbid him from writing his ſituation to the Governor, that he, Mr. Briſtow himſelf, ſhould write in his behalf, and repreſent the ſtate of the caſe to the Governor General, i. e. that his Highneſs by his importunity, had been forced to comply, but that the meaſure was not agreeable to him; and that he ſhould intreat the Governor's permiſſion to aboliſh the new appointments of Comptroller and Treaſurer; that Mr. Briſtow ſhould ſend the money for the payment of the Toorkſuvvaurs to him, the Nuvvaub, and that he, as formerly, would ſend it to Tipper Chund to be iſſued.

I returned to Mr. Briſtow, and communicated the Nuvvaub's anſwer; Mr. Briſtow conſented that after the appointments had taken place he would write to the Governor, and recommend the Nuvvaub's wiſhes, and that he would act agreeably to the orders he ſhould receive from the Governor in reply.

According to the pleaſure of Mr. Briſtow, Dawaurgau Daus has been appointed Treaſurer, Tahakoor Daus Comptroller of the houſehold, und Raja Tipper Chund paymaſter to the Toorkſuvvaurs, &c.; it remains to be ſeen whether Mr. Briſtow will write to the Governor, agreeably to his promiſe, or not. Whatever may be the Governor's pleaſure, his orders ſhall be complied with.

From

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From Hyder Beg Khawn to Mr. Briſtow; written on the 11th Rubbee ul Auwul, 1197, or 14th February, 1783.

Copy: Received March 23d, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

I have received your favour; agreeably to your commands I will make the repreſentation to the Nabob Vizier, and will communicate to you in perſon what he may pleaſe to ſay in reply; the letter to the Aumils I will write and deliver to you, agreeably to your orders. You are pleaſed to ſay, that, from your reliance on me, you have refrained hitherto that of poſſeſſing an entire authority and power in the Surcor of the Nuvvaub Vizier. I declare that he refuſes to attend to my repreſentations, the worſt conſequences are to be apprehended therefrom to me; inaſmuch as I am the deputy of the Nuvvaub Vizier, poſſeſſing unlimited authority, yet repreſent and lay before him meaſures of importance, and am unable to obtain his aſſent to them; that whenever the confidence of the Nuvvaub Vizier is withdrawn from me, and neceſſary meaſures can no longer be carried into execution, the buſineſs is at an end. Although to reply to theſe particulars of your pleaſure, is to deviate from the reſpect due from the obedient; yet when, without cauſe and without fault, the hour of crimination arrives, to repreſent the real ſtate of things, becomes unavoidable. My power and authority in the Surcar of the Nuvvaub Vizier, is the gift of the Governor General, and I have hitherto received the ſupport and aſſiſtance of the Gentlemen in power here. Regardleſs of the enmity of people at this court, and contemning their animoſity, I have continued to do my duty; and in return for faithful ſervices, I have been included in the objects of the Governor General's favour. From you I hoped for an encreaſe of ſupport and aſſiſtance, of credit and of power. It muſt have proceeded from a change in my fortune, and and not from any deficiency of favour on your part, that my repreſentations, by the efforts of enemies, have been rendered ineffectual.

From the moment of your arrival, I have not in any manner whatever been deficient in obedience, but have in every buſineſs, and without heſitation, fulfilled your commands of whatever nature they might be, as in the important buſineſs reſpecting the regiments at Futty Gurr, the execution of which you were pleaſed to direct ſhould not be ſuſpended by attention to the Nuvvaub's permiſſion, or by the neceſſity of informing him thereof; in the ſame manner, in every buſineſs whatever on which I have received your orders at whatever time received, and whatever the nature of them, I have paid the moſt implicit obedience to thoſe

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those orders on the instant. From my first appointment to the Neabut, I have been enabled to conduct the affairs of both Surcars, which I have ever considered as one and the same, by the assistance and support of the Gentlemen here, and have on all occasions acted in obedience to their directions; and thus I have repeatedly represented to you, that on condition of support and assistance, I would execute all your commands; and that in the affairs of the Company, I was ready to fulfil the commands of the Governor General, those of the Gentlemen of the Council, and your pleasure, without hesitation or evasion, at the hazard of my life, inasmuch as I consider my own interests and prosperity as depending thereon.

When you formerly spoke to me respecting the Toorksuvvaurs, and the household establishments of the Nuvvaub Vizier, I then informed you, that I never had had any concern in the management of those establishments; that this circumstance was known to the whole world; that they were under the direction of the Nuvvaub Vizier's own people, and that he never would voluntarily consent to the measure.—You told me, in reply, that the Governor General's orders were to be obeyed; and so I must inform the Nuvvaub.

I, on my part, told the Nuvvaub Vizier, in the most pointed terms, that there was a necessity for his compliance with whatever proposals you should make by the Governor's orders, for the improvement of his affairs; but other people, at the same time, carried messages from you to the Nuvvaub, importing, that whatever his pleasure might be, you would act agreeably thereto;—nay, you even went so far as to recommend, in person, to the Nuvvaub, that I should not be employed in these affairs, but that he should conduct the business as he thought proper himself. Other expressions dropt from you, with respect to me, which I know not how to repeat, for such I never could have expected from you. This being the case, in justice consider, that having expressed yourself as you did express yourself, what authority, or influence, or respectability, can remain with me? The conduct of this business did not depend upon me, and therefore the delay cannot have arisen from neglect on my part. Several people have been employed in conferences on this subject with the Nuvvaub Vizier, by your orders. Now that, from motives of kindness and favour, you have directed me to forward this business, and added declarations respecting support and assistance, I am, as I have always declared, ready to obey; to whatever you shall please to command, I shall never object; and I am every way ready to obey your orders in the execution of affairs, *independent* of the inclinations of the

Nuvvaub

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Nuvvaub Vizier, if you will assure me of support and protection, in case of his displeasure. I have never yet objected, nor will I now object. Devoted and powerless as I am, the increase of my respectability and influence depends upon your favour towards me, and their diminution proceeds from opposite causes. Thus I have ever acted, and this I have repeatedly declared; and I now repeat, that in the affairs of both Surcars, I am ready to obey the orders of the Governor General, and the Gentlemen of the Council, and yours, at the hazard of my life, and without evasion or excuse. The delay which has hitherto come to pass in this business has not in any manner proceeded from *neglect* on my part: The negotiation of this affair did not depend upon me; whenever I spoke to the Nuvvaub Vizier on the subject, he always replied, "Mr. Bristow has "said to me that you must have nothing to do in those affairs, "why then do *you* talk to me on the subject? leave it to "me and Mr. Bristow." This particular I have heretofore fully and repeatedly mentioned to you. Now that, from motives of kindness, you have favoured me with your commands, I am ready to obey them: I will act agreeably to your directions. If you had favoured me with them formerly, they would have been instantly executed; no delays would have intervened.

I wished, the day before yesterday, to lay this representation of the state of things before you, but was deterred by my apprehensions of your aptness to anger. As I entertain the fullest hopes from your favour, I have at length ventured on this communication of my situation.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn; written on the 16th of Rubba ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 19th February, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, July 3d, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I have received the Message by Raja Tickait Raie, "that "his Highness has postponed the appointment of the Trea-"surer." My friend, if it can be settled to-day, well; if not, as the mismanagement and disorder in every department must be imputed to the non-existence of it, I shall to-morrow appoint a person to that office. With respect to his Highness's proposal to me, to write to the Governor to suspend this measure, I will write, agreeably to his Highness's commands, word for word, to the Governor General. Corresponding to the commands of the Governor, and from inclination and attachment to his Highness, I am solicitous to promote the arrangement and improvement of

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his Highneſs's affairs. Thus much I have written for your information.

Concludes as uſual.

P. S. On the 11th of the month I wrote to you fully and particularly concerning every thing; from the contents of that letter, it will doubtleſs be apparent to you, that his Highneſs's objections reſpecting affairs are, in the opinion of the Governor General, your objections. Reflect on the importance of this circumſtance. Profeſſions ofduty, and ſubmiſſion, and obedience, unattended by he properexecution of buſineſs, are of no avail. Your duty and attachment to his Highneſs and the Governor General, will now be proved by the due execution of thoſe orders, which have been repeatedly communicated to you, but not obeyed.

Concludes as uſual.

From Hyder Beg Khawn to Mr. Briſtow; written on the 16th of Rubba ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 19th February, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, July 3d, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

I have received your favour, acknowledging the receipt of a meſſage by Raja Tickait Raie, informing you, that his Highneſs had poſtponed the appointment of a Treaſurer.

In theſe conferrences, whatever has been ſaid by his Highneſs, I have communicated to you; and all that you have been pleaſed to ſay, I have repreſented to his Highneſs. His Highneſs has repeated thoſe particulars to-day. I communicate the whole to you fully by Raja Tickait Raie: It is as follows:—That as you have declared that your determination, reſpecting the Treaſurer and Comptroller, is founded on a view to the arrangement and regulation of the affairs of his Highneſs's Surcar, and, in compliance with the orders of the Governor General, aſking "Why his "Highneſs ſuffers ſuſpicions to enter his mind, from the "ſuggeſtions of other people?" I repreſented the matter to his Highneſs from you, and in obedience to the orders of the Governor General, in the moſt perſuaſive and encouraging terms. His Highneſs replied, That although he ſhould be diſgraced by the appointment of a Treaſurer, ſince, in conſequence thereof, he ſhould have no authority alſo over his houſehold, domeſtics, and dowab; yet, without remdy, he would conſent, on this condition, that after the appointments had taken place, you ſhould write to the Governor General, by way of recommendation, and requeſt his permiſſion to withdraw the meaſure; and reſpecting the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs, which, by the contents

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contents of the ſhoccahs which you have cauſed to be written to the Aumils, is included in the Tankhaw of the Company, and the ſuperintendance of which has been given to Mr. Cooper, and a ſeparate Treaſurer appointed for the ſame, that you will withdraw the meaſure, and return the ſhoccahs; and that ſhoccahs reſpecting the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs may be written, directing the monies to be tranſmitted to his Highneſs; that his Highneſs will ſend it to Rajah Tippur Chund, according to former practice, to be iſſued to the Toorkſuvvaurs. In reply to which, you ſaid, That the object was to effect the buſineſs; —it was no matter, you conſented to it. Agreeably to your declarations, I repreſented to his Highneſs, that you had conſented to write to the Governor General, in the ſtyle of recommendation, as ſoon as the appointments of the Treaſurer and Comptroller had taken place, to withdraw that meaſure; and alſo to the exchange of the ſhoccahs, which had formerly been written, reſpecting the Tunkaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs, for others. Accordingly, on the next day but one, I laid before you draughts of ſhoccahs, directing the monies from the Jauidaud for the Dowaub, and houſehold of the Surcar, to be remitted to the charge of the Treaſurer and Comptroller, and ordering the tunkaw monies for the Toorkſuvvaurs to be ſent to his Highneſs.—You approved of the drafts of the ſhoccahs, concerning the Jauidaud of Dowaub and domeſtics; and reſpecting the tunkaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs, you ſaid, That thoſe which were formerly written might remain; that to change them was unneceſſary; that the money would be received by Mr. Cooper; and that, at the time for iſſuing the tunkaw to the Toorkſuvvaurs, you would ſend the money to his Highneſs, who would deliver it to the Raja Tippur Chund; and that, if agreeable to his Highneſs, he might write a Shoccah to you, deſiring you to ſend the tunkhaw money for the Toorkſuvvaurs to him, to be iſſued, which would be altogether ſufficient. I, who am under your orders, and have been at all times ready to obey them, of whatever nature they were, cauſed the ſhoccahs to the Aumils of the Jauidaud Mahauls, for the houſehold and Dowaub of the Surcar, to be written; and I this day preſented them to his Highneſs for his ſeal. His Highneſs obſerved, That ſhoccahs had been formerly written reſpecting the tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs; and deſired that they might be returned, and other ſhoccahs be written. I at firſt requeſted his Highneſs to let his ſeal be affixed to thoſe ſhoccahs, that I might deliver them to you, and that on the morrow I would bring the other ſhoccahs; his Highneſs peremptorily ſaid, that when the ſhoccahs concerning the tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs formerly written were

returned, and others correſponding to the preſent agreement were written, he would order his ſeal to be affixed to them all, at one and the ſame time, and deliver them. I then repreſented that it was unneceſſary to change the ſhoccahs concerning the tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs; that it would be ſufficient to write a ſhoccah to you, deſiring you to ſend the money to him at the period for iſſuing it to the Toorkſuvvaurs, and that you would ſend it accordingly. His Highneſs replied to me in paſſion, and ſaid, "You firſt cauſed ſhoccahs to be written, including the "tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs in that of the Company, "and delivered them without my knowledge; and now, "that it has been agreed to return thoſe ſhoccahs, you "again counteracted it—I will not conſent. Let that "which has been agreed to be performed." His Highneſs added, "It appears evident from this, that when the ap-"pointment of the Treaſurer ſhall have taken place, he "will alſo decline to write, as he has engaged to do, to the "Governor General." I replied, That you had repeatedly promiſed to write to the Governor General as ſoon as the appointment had taken place, and undoubtedly would write. His Highneſs replied, That the buſineſs was every way replete with diſgrace to him, and calculated to annihilate his authority; that nothing would be performed; that he had deſired the ſhoccahs concerning the tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs to be changed; it had not been complied with; what elſe then could be expected? I repeated my repreſentations, but as his Highneſs would not liſten to them, I ſent you a verbal account of all that had paſſed by the Raja Tickait Raie: Such is the ſtate of the buſineſs, and ſuch the manner in which the appointment has been poſtponed for this day. I ſhall now, agreeably to your commands, attend his Highneſs in the morning, again repreſent the matter to him, and lay your letter to me before him; and I will afterwards wait upon you, and communicate his pleaſure, whatever it may be.—You are pleaſed to ſay, in the ſeparate poſtſcript of your letter, that on the 11th of the month you wrote to me fully and particularly concerning every thing; that from the contents of that letter, it muſt doubtleſs appear to me, that his Highneſs's objections reſpecting affairs are conſidered by the Governor General as my objections, and deſiring me to reflect on the importance of this circumſtance; that profeſſions of duty, and obedience, and ſubmiſſion, unattended by the proper execution of buſineſs, were of no avail; and that my duty and attachment to his Highneſs and the Governor General would be then proved, by the due execution of thoſe orders which had been repeatedly communicated to me, but not obeyed. On the ſame day that the letter alluded to, to

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to the above purport, was received, I represented fully to you, in reply, my want of power, and other matters; the fulness of my obedience, and compliance with your commands, from the day of your arrival; the things which I had done, both in affairs of importance, and in concerns of less moment, both with and without the knowledge of his Highness, in compliance with your directions; and likewise the causes of the delay which had occured in certain particular affairs; and I furthermore remarked, that my having wrote and delivered to you the shoccahs respecting the tunkhaw of the Toorksuvvaurs in the manner or to the purport which you had directed them to be written, without the knowledge of his Highness, must stand as an incontestible proof of my obedience to your commands; and on this account his Highness has repeatedly upbraided me, demanding to know how I presumed to cause shoccahs to be written and delivered without his knowledge? I informed you of the Nuvvaub's displeasure, and you told me to be under no apprehensions; that what I had done, I had done by your orders. In your letter of the 11th, you directed me to write certain letters; I wrote them on the same day, and kept them in readiness, and they are now ready to be produced: In my letter to you on this subject, I represented that security was necessary, that I must be assured of support and protection with respect to such matters as I should execute, agreeably to your pleasure, without the assent of his Highness. Notwithstanding such proofs and demonstrations, the written evidences of which still exist, you say that professions of duty and obedience, unattended by the execution of business, is of no avail.—Hitherto I have not been deficient in obedience to the extreme. As you have repeatedly declared that you will not delay the execution of this measure, and that it does not depend on his Highness's approbation or disapprobation—why this procrastination? In obedience to the orders of the Governor General, whatever you shall direct me to do, I will perform;—if I do not, then blame me. If I am deficient, or hesitating in my obedience, why did I write the letters?—they have been prepared from that very day. To groundless blame, in return for obedience in extreme, what representations can I make, except those of resignation and acquiescence? In reality, I have not been deficient, and, by God's favour, will not. I have not given room for the slightest reflection to rest on my duty and obedience, and will not: While I have life, I will obey the orders of the Governor General; whatever is your pleasure, inform me, and I will fulfil it.

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From Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khawn, written on the 20th of Rubbee ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 23d February, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

I made repreſentations and propoſals to his Highneſs for the arrangement of his houſehold, that the revenue from the Jauidaud Mahauls for the Dowaub and houſehold expences might be received at the preſence in caſh; that a Treaſurer and Comptroller might be appointed; that the diſburſements might be made from the Treaſury, and under the inſpection of the Comptroller, agreeable to the orders of his Highneſs; by which means every department would be duly paid. His Highneſs has fixed upon or appointed Duvwaurgadaus for the Treaſurer, and Tahakoor Daus for the Comptroller for the diſburſements of the houſehold, and Raja Tippur Chund to iſſue the Tunkhaw to the Toorkſuvvaurs;—I alſo, as a well-wiſher, approve of the arrangement.

His Highneſs deſires that the monies may be kept in the Punjemahelleh, under the charge of the Mootaſuddies of the Surcar, and that I will return the Shoccahs which were formerly iſſued concerning the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs: Agreeably to his Highneſs's commands I conſent to both; that the monies ſhall be kept ſeparately in the Punjemahelleh, under the charge of the people of the Surcar, that the diſburſements for the Dowaub, &c. be made by the orders of his Highneſs, counterſigned by the Naib, by Duwaurgodaus, the Treaſurer, under the inſpection of Mirza Mahummud Huſſun, Comptroller, and under the direction or authority of Tahakoordaus, Paiſhcar; and that the monies for the Toorkſuvvaurs be iſſued from the office of Raja Tippur Chund; and that the Tunkhaw Shoccahs reſpecting the Toorkſavvaurs, formerly iſſued, ſhall be returned.

Concludes as uſual.

P. S. I ſend back his Highneſs's Shoccahs addreſſed to me, and to Sheihk Golaum Surroor.

Memorandum, written by Hyder Beg Khawn.

Mr. Briſtow kept the following Shoccah, from the Nuvvaub Vizier to him, for four or five days, and then ſent it to me, with the accompanying letter.

From the Nuvvaub Vizier to Mr. Briſtow.

Uſual introduction.

You deſired that a Treaſurer and Comptroller might be appointed over the diſburſements of the Dowaub, domeſtics, &c. of

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&c. of my houſhold. I objected, becauſe it would reflect diſgrace upon me in the eyes of the whole world, ſince it would be apparent, that I had no longer any authority over my own houſhold, my Dowaub, and my domeſtics; at the ſame time that it would be productive of no advantage whatever to the Engliſh Government. You inſiſt upon theſe appointments being made. From the higheſt to the loweſt it has ſtill been cuſtomary for every one, whatever the income which his ſituation afforded him, to manage the expences of his own domeſtics and Dowaub at his diſcretion; yet ſuch are the events which my fate has brought forward, that a new Treaſurer and Comptroller are about to be appointed over my houſehold, domeſtics, and Dowaub. The infant at the breaſt, that has aught in its hand, will weep if it is forced from him; I alſo underſtand what is and what is not for my advantage; and I now with humility tell you, that if for my ſatisfaction, and out of friendſhip for me, you will deſiſt from this meaſure, you will confer a favour upon me; but in caſe it is your pleaſure that it ſhall be ſo, I am without reſource—make the appointments. Yet, at leaſt, let thus much of appearances be preſerved, that the monies from the Jauidaud Mahauls, for the Dowaub, domeſtics, and houſehold diſburſements, and for the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs, may be tranſmitted to the place where I reſide, and be ſeparately delivered into the charge of my people. The monies on account of the Dowaub and houſehold expences ſhall be iſſued by Davargadaus, the Treaſurer, and Mahummud Huſſun, Comptroller, and Tahakoordas, the Comptroller's Paiſhkar, under my directions or authority; and the Tunkhau of the Toorkſuvvaurs, correſponding to the regulations and practices of this Surcar, ſhall be iſſued to them as formerly by the Raja Tippur Chund, and that you will return the Shoccahs, which you cauſed to be written without my knowledge, concerning the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſavvaurs, directing thoſe monies to be included in and remitted with the Tunkhaw of the Company; and that you will hereafter, as my friend, write to the Governor General, and requeſt his orders to aboliſh the appointment of the new Treaſurer and Comptroller, which are about to be made.

True copies.

E. HAY,

Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

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From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn, written on the 14th of the month of Jummaud ul Owul, A. H. 1197, or 17th of April, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I formerly wrote to you that I was distressed by the number of plaintiffs, or complainants, ten or twenty people presenting erzees daily, and uttering loud complaints; the case is the same now, and therefore it is become highly necessary to establish an Adawlut to examine into and settle such matters; in consequence of which I have delivered over the complainants to Mr. Cooper. Meer Mahummud Hoossain Attan Khawn will remain between that gentleman and you; and you will be pleased to put the business of the complainants in a train of procedure agreeably to Mr. Cooper's directions.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn, written the 11th of Jummaud ul Awal 1197, or 19th April, 1783.

Copy, enclosed in Hyder Beg Khawn's Letter to the Honourable the Governor General.

Received the 1st of May, 1783.

Some days have elapsed since Mahummed Hoosin Attun Khawn waited upon you from Mr. Cooper. He brought back from you a message—"That after you had represented "the business to his Highness the order should be carried "into execution." I sent a verbal answer to you:—"That in such matters your seal, affixed to the petitions, "or your perwanehs or letters, directed to the Aumils, "would be sufficient;" since then I have received no reply from you. As it does not certainly appear that his Highness's return will be speedy, as the crowd of complainants is great, and as those and other affairs are at a stand, I therefore trouble you to write perwanehs or letters, under your own seal, to the Aumils against whom the petitioners have exhibited complaints, that there may be no delay in the execution of necessary business; in case there should be any objections on this ground, inform me of them plainly; in every business your friendship is my first object. It appears to me, that you are possessed of discretional authority in such affairs, notwithstanding which you keep them in suspence until his Highness's return. I regard, from my heart and soul, the preservation of the respect due to his Highness; and there are many things which it is certainly improper to do without his approbation; but to write orders to the Aumils to investigate matters of equity, and cruelty, and oppression, which are purely calculated for

for the happiness and prosperity of mankind, and is a business which will occur daily, in such affairs there will be no end to the applications for permission to his Highness. It is moreover the wish of my heart, that, agreeably to the orders and commands of the Nuyvaub Immaud u Dowlah, the Governor General, that acting in concert with you, in the execution of measures, affairs may be happily conducted and arranged. For these ten days past I have been somewhat indisposed, and am therefore going to Putteree Ghaut, for the benefit of the air. God willing, I shall return at the end of three days, when we shall have the pleasure of meeting. This I have written for your information.

From Hyder Beg Khawn to Mr. Bristow:—Written on the 14th of Jummaud ul Awul 1197.

Copy, enclosed in Hyder Beg Khawn's Letter to the Honourable the Governor General.

Received May 1st, 1783.

I have been favoured with your letter on the affair of the complainants. Your directions correspond with Mr. Cooper's requisitions, respecting his Dustkhuts. On all occasions, obedience and attention to your pleasure are the objects of my regard. When Hoosein Attan Khaun brought me a message from Mr. Cooper, that I should cause his Highness's seal to be affixed to those petitions superscribed with his, Mr. Cooper's, Dustkhut, I then told you, that if you directed me so to do, I would apply to the Vizier for his seal to be affixed to those petitions, superscribed by Mr. Cooper. You replied, That until you had settled the plan of the Adaulut business, it would be unnecessary to represent it to his Highness. After his Highness had set out on his hunting excursion, Hoosein Attan Khaun brought me a message to affix my own seal to them. I then said, That after representing the case to you, I would give an answer. I informed you, that Mouluvvie Mubeen was the Daurrogeh of the Adaulut, and that all suits were determined by him, agreeably to the Sharra; and that the diary of such as had been determined for some time past had been transmitted to me; that others were depending. That from the time that the Mouluvvie had been appointed to the conduct of the business of the Adaulut, he had decided on all subjects of litigation; and that what he awarded, as agreeably to the Sharra, had been carried into execution; and with respect to the complaints of people against the Aumils, the greatest part of them are on the part of battalion sepoys, respecting assistance in the collection of mahsool from the lands, &c. Formerly, of those who came, some

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ſome received Shoccahs from the preſence; to others, letters were granted. On every occaſion, and every where, that which appeared equitable was done; the ſame mode is ſtill ſubſiſting. I will now be more particular in my injunctions than before. I am no way deficient in obedience and ſubmiſſion to you; but this is a delicate and important buſineſs which has been brought forward, inaſmuch as Mr. Cooper, in the ſtyle of a ſuperior Lord, ſuperſcribes the petitions of the complainants with his Duſtkhut; addreſſed, thoſe which concern the Aumils, to them; and thoſe which relate to matters in the city, to the Vizier. If I have your directions, I will apply to his Highneſs reſpecting this manner and mode, under his Duſtkhut, that the ſame may be adopted.

Your intentions in going to Putteeree Ghaut, on account of indiſpoſition, will I hope be fulfilled. I pray God to reſtore your health. If any thing important ſhould occur for communication, I will attend you there, or wait upon you, and repreſent every thing on your return to Lucknow.

Copy of an Erzee to Mr. Briſtow.

The
Shurra, or
Duſtkhut of Mr.
Cooper, in the writing of
his Moonſhee.
Let orders be given to Fakeerchund,
not to injure and oppreſs without cauſe, but
to ſet the ſons-in-law of Haujee Auhau
Mahummud at liberty, and write an account of the
circumſtances reſpecting them to the preſence.

Sets forth, That the two ſons-in-law to Haujee Auhau Mahummud have been confined in priſon during the whole of

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of the laſt year; from the time of Fakeer Chund's appointment he has treated them with the utmoſt ſeverity, even to the prohibiting their food from being brought to them. We had rented the purgunnah of Hali Gunge for three years; four months of the Fuſſul of Hurreef remained when we were turned out; all that was received to that period was paid; and if we had continued through the Hurreef Fuſſul, the remainder would have been paid. We are in no ſhape guilty; we hope from your favour and goodneſs that, in your kindneſs to the poor and the helpleſs, you will ſet them at liberty, &c.

Signed the Erzee of the family of Hauje Auhau Mahummud.

Copy of an Erzee to Mr. Briſtow.

The Shurrah, or Duſtkut of Mr. Cooper, in the writing of his Moonſhee.

Let orders be iſſued to Jauni Beg not to moleſt the habitations of the widows, but to make good the injury he has done them.

Erzee to the Nuvvaub, the Diſpenſer of Juſtice, &c.

Sets forth, that Jauni Beg unjuſtly, and by force and violence, hath ſeized upon the dwellings of certain widows; you are the protector of the poor; whatever may be your determination in behalf of the widows, be pleaſed to declare it:—We have no other refuge but you, &c. He formerly pulled down four or five houſes; and he has now prohibited water from being carried to four or five others, &c.

Signed, Erzee of the Widows.

From

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From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn:—Written on the 26th Jummud ul Awul 1197.

Copy: Received May 13th, 1783.

Usual introduction.

It appears that the building which has been assigned for the Cutcheree of the Foujdaree Adalut, is not at all adapted to that purpose; that it is filled with the baggage and property of the Surcar, and situated in the centre of the Nuvvaub's palace. It is therefore absolutely necessary that you fix upon and allot a commodious building in the city of Lucknow, for the Foujdaree Adalut, as the assigning such a place as the present is a matter of joke. Some time since several petitions, agreeably to the enclosed list, were sent by Mahommed Hoosin Attan Kawn, through Mr. Cooper, to you: You will be pleased to return them by the bearer of this letter, that I may take copies of them, to accompany his Highness's shoccahs, or your letters, whichever may be proper, respecting the investigation of the said matters.

Concludes as usual.

Reply to Mr. Bristow's letter of the 26th of Jummaud ul Awul 1197, by Hyder Beg Cawn.

Copy: Received May 13th, 83.

I have received your favour. His Highness assigned the place for the Cutcheree of the Adâlut adjoining to his own palace; it is the place where the Dewann Cutcharee and others, the whole of them, were formerly held. Such is its extent, that all the Cutcharees of the Surcar for many years have been held in the places adjoining to the palace. Thus the Dewaun Cutcheree was held in the Barra Durree, together with the other Cutcharees belonging to it; and this place his Highness has assigned for the Adalut Cutcharee, because the passage for the ingress and regress of complainants is out of the way to the palace, so that no one can offer molestation to the people in their coming out and going in. Agreeably to your orders, I will represent to his Highness respecting another building. The Erzees of the petitioners, superscribed with the Dustkhut of Mr. Cooper, which came to me, I have sent agreeably to your orders.

Copy of a Paper delivered by Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khaun.

Received at Calcutta 13th May, 1783.

1st. To obtain payment of the Company's Tunkaw is the primary object. Owing to the bad management of Aumils,

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Aumils, the refractorinefs of Zemindars, and a too late fettlement with the Aumils for the prefent year, much confufion has arifen in the country; and deficiencies will alfo arife. Now that the end of the year is arrived, it will be neceffary to make the fettlement every where in time, and ftriking off improper expences or difburfements in the Mahalauts, that the difmiffion and change of Aumils be undertaken, fo that the authority of every Aumil being eftablifhed in his Aumildaree at the proper feafon, he may be enabled to regulate the Bundobuft effectually, and be left, without pretence or evafion, in the payment of the Maulvaujeb of the Surcar.

2d. The office of Dewan has for many years belonged to the Rajah Soorut Sing, but the faid Rajah has no power in the fuperintendance of the affairs of his office; thus papers which I had occafion for were obtained with difficulty and delays; and moreover, the bufinefs of the office is executed by men who are in no manner acquainted or connected with the Surarifhteh of the Dufter. It is neceffary that orders be iffued to every Aumil and Surarifhtehdar, that they tranfmit, without evafion or delay, every paper required from them by the faid Rajah, and that the accounts of every Mahaul, and every place, and every Surarifhteh be entered in the Dewanee Cutcharee, for which a proper place fhould be affigned, under the controul or infpection of the faid Rajah; and if at any time after papers or accounts have been entered in the Dewannee office, any fuch papers fhall be altered or changed, that every Moota Suddie who fhall be guilty of fuch changing of papers or accounts, be feverely punifhed: And that all the bufinefs of the accounts and the Surarifhteh be executed by the people of the Dewannee; and that the Surarifhteh of the office of the Dewannee, and the names of the different departments, and of every bufinefs belonging to thofe departments, be feparately paid, or delineated and fent to me.

3d. A Treafurer has been appointed for the Surratifhteh of the foldiers and the army, and for the houfehold, domeftics, dowaub, [i. e. beafts of carriage and burthen] &c.; if agreeably to the plan all the collections had been paid in to him, the monies of the Company's Tunkhaw excepted, the whole of the receipts would have been collected together, and the modes of difburfement would have been known. Notwithftanding this was required by me, that I might inform myfelf of the receipts and difburfements of the Surcor, and the fpecific fum in fpecie which would be neceffary to appropriate daily to the latter [Dowargerdaus was prefent on the occafion] and that it was given in charge to the faid Lalah Tahakoor-daus, it was own to the prefent period, neither the accounts of the

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the receipts and disbursements, nor the statement of the sum in specie, have been received. Moreover, the said Lalah, who agreeably to the plan is absolute Comptroller, is altogether without power in the execution of his office, and in consequence of his being appointed thereto, he has lost the employment which he before held, and the respectability which he possessed in the Surcor of his Highness; and from the regulation of the office of Treasury not having taken place, monies are secretly dissipated; and at times when urgent business is delayed or suspended, improper expences to the amount of lacks are incurred.—It is therefore absolutely necessary that a general Treasurer, to whom the collections from every Mahaul and every place shall be paid in, and by whom the same shall be issued to the other Treasurers, be appointed.

4th. The money for the expences of the officers of the household, or domestics, &c. is to be preferred to every other object, as thereby the discredit arising from the wretched condition of the Dowaub, which is owing to the non-payment of the monthly salaries or allowances to the officers of the household, will be removed; it is therefore positively necessary that it be settled as underwritten:—That the monies from the Jauidauds for the expences of the household, the monthly allowances of the officers of the household, and the other servants of the Surcor of his Highness the Vizier of the empire, as shall be forthcoming from or payable by the Aumils, be put under the charge of a Tehveldar or Receiver, and that the expences for the household, and the monthly salaries of the household officers and other servants of his Highness, be fully and particularly stated and fixed, in twelve monthly statements, month by month, that the same may be paid by the said Tehveldar of the Surcar to the servants thereof, without impediment or evasion; and that the said Tehveldar be not suffered to issue a single daum to any person whatever, without the dustkhut of the Vizier of the empire, and the countersign of the Naib in authority; and that the Daurogehs of the Surcor who are appointed to Daurogeh offices, be not employed in matters of government and revenue.

5th. According to the list of Jageerdars and Tunkhaudars considerable sums are requisite: on account of the deficiency of Jauidaud few obtain their due; and such are the difficulties and distress to which they are reduced, that his Highness's brothers, and the families of the late Nuvvaub, and the Nuvvaub Boorhaun ul Moolk, in the extremity of their distress, have been and are repeatedly urged to clamour and lamentation, insomuch that several of his Highness's brothers have become united with and dependant on other Chiefs; it is therefore necessary that a separate Treasurer be

appointed

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appointed for the Jageerdars and Tunkhaudars, and that a Kiſtbundee for the twelve months, according to the months of the Fuſſullee year, be ſettled, that their ſtipends may be paid to them by the ſaid Treaſurer, without impediment, month by month.

6th. It has been aſcertained that exceſſive frauds and peculations exiſt in the military department, numbers of domeſtic ſervants and writers, under the name of ſoldiers, devour and diſſipate ſums to a vaſt amount. The army, moreover, is unfit for ſervice; ſo that if any urgent occaſion ſhould ariſe, ten to twelve thouſand horſe and foot could not be collected; yet, ſmall as the military force is, their pay and Tunkhaws are daily encreaſing.—Numbers of the men inliſted in the military, on the application of the Moota Suddies and domeſtics of the Surcor, are abſolutely incapable of ſervice; to entertain uſeleſs people as ſoldiers, at the pleaſure of Moota Suddies and dependents, is the worſt of all governmental evils. In the Surariſhteh of the Ruſſaulehs, various irregularities, contrary to practice and order have been introduced, and on theſe accounts neither order nor diſcipline exiſt in the army. Of troops and ſoldiers actually fit for ſervice there are none in the Suvvaurree, except the officers themſelves. With reſpect to the Tunkhaw of the Toorkſuvvaurs, which I formerly relinquiſhed, the Naib in authority engaged to me that he would iſſue the pay to the Toorkſuvvaurs with his own hands, and that he would correct the abuſes and frauds, and diſmiſs the Baurgurs the Ruſſauleh.—The pay has continued to be iſſued as formerly, and the frauds and abuſes of the Baurgurs ſtill continue. The dufter account of the Rajah Tipper Chund, with the different employments of the people under the ſaid Rajah individually, he will cauſe to be ſent to me.

7th. I have repeatedly underſtood, from the declarations of the Naib in authority, that Muſter Maſters had been ſent out every where by the Rajah Tippur Chund; as yet from no place whatever have accounts of abuſes and peculations been received. He muſt give me a written liſt of the names of every Muſter Maſter, at every ſtation, and the ſaid Rajah muſt furniſh me with information of the occurrences of his department.

Except the Tunkhaw of the Company, no Tunkhaw whatever, on the Aumils, muſt be admitted in the Muſfuſſul. The bills of exchange for the collections from the Mahalauts muſt be delivered in to the general Treaſurer, and an account of the receipts muſt be daily preſented by him.

In the city of Lucknow, which is the reſidence of the Prince, robberies and murders, and circumſtances of cruelty

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elty and oppreſſion, are frequent, the regular or firm eſtabliſhment of a Foujedaree Adâlut is therefore neceſſary.

10th. Let a mode be determined for the deciding on and ſettling diſputes in matters and ſuits reſpecting perſonal and landed property, and to do juſtice in matters of extortion on the part of the Aumils.

11th. Let not Ruſſaulehs be in the hands of Aumils, and let the civil and the military departments be ſeparated from each other.

12th. As the above articles are according to the plan determined on by the Governor General, by the due execution thereof our reſpective offices will be confirmed and ſecured to you and to me.

Copy of a Coul Naumeh offered by Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khawn.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, May 13th, 1783.

Copy.

The Coul Naumeh of Mr. John Briſtow.

In conducting the affairs and concerns of the Surcar of his Highneſs the Nuvvaub Vizier of the empire, and thoſe of the Nuvvaub, the Governor General Mr. Haſtings, I will act with the advice and in conjunction with Hyder Beg Khawn, which in every reſpect will be correſponding to the commands of both the ſaid Nuvvaubs; and in mutual ſecrecy and friendſhip no deviation ſhall ever come to paſs: and as long as the Nuvvaub Hyder Beg Khawn ſhall exert himſelf agreeably to Coul a Kurraur, or agreement, in the conduct of affairs, I will execute every buſineſs and every tranſaction with his counſel and advice; and after the complete eſtabliſhment of the new plan which has been formed, agreeably to the orders of the Governor General, ſolely for the intereſt, the advantage, and the proſperity of the affairs of his Highneſs's Surcar, I will repreſent the abilities and unanimity of Hyder Beg Khawn to both Nuvvaubs, and will exert myſelf properly, and to the utmoſt of my power, to cauſe the office of Neabut to be continued to the Nuvvaub Hyder Beg Khawn.

Theſe few lines have been written as a Coul Naumeh: written on the twentieth of the month Jummad ul Awul, An. Heg. 1197.

Extract from a Paper delivered by Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khawn.

2d. The office of Dewan has for many years belonged to the Rajah Soorut Sing, but the ſaid Rajah has no power in the ſuperintendance of the papers of this office; thus papers

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papers which I had occasion for, were obtained with difficulty and delay, and moreover the business of the office is executed by men who are in no manner concerned or connected with the surrarishteh of the Dufter. It is necessary that orders be issued to every Aumil and Surrarishtedar, that they transmit without evasion or delay every paper required from them by the Rajah Soorut Sing, and that the accounts of every Mahaul, and every place, and every Surrarishteh, be entered in the Dewannee Cutcharry, for which a proper place should be assigned, under the controul or inspection of the said Rajah; and if at any time, after papers or accounts have been so entered in the Dewanny Office, any such papers shall be altered or changed, that every Moota Suddee who shall be guilty of such changing of papers or accounts, be severely punished; and that all the business of the accounts, and the Surrarishteh, be taken from or done by the people of the Dewannee; and that the Surrarishteh of the office of Dewannee, and the names of the different departments, and of every business belonging to that department, be separately fixed, or delineated and sent to me.

Reply, by Hyder Beg Khaun, to an Article in the Paper delivered by Mr. Bristow.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, July 3d, 1783.

In the business of the Governmental accounts you one day told me, "That orders had come to you from Calcutta to take the Persian Dufter accounts into your own hands; that the Dewaun Soorut Sing was grown old, that his intellects had failed him, and that his son-in-law, Rajah Jugnaut, was young and without experience: that having appointed another Dewaun, you would take possession of the Dufter accounts of the Surcar of his Highness; and accordingly inquired where the Dufter accounts of the Surcor were kept:" I replied, that they were kept in the offices adjoining to his Highness's palace, where they had been kept for many years; and that those Dufter accounts were under the charge of the Dewaun's Mootasuddies: That whenever any accounts were required, the Dewan's Mootasuddies selected them from the other papers, and took copies of them; that Rajah Soorut Sing was the ancient Dewan of the Surcar; that if he was incapable of labour, yet the Mootasuddies, who were also old servants of the Surcar, were attentive to their duty, and executed the business of their office. Now you are pleased to say, that the Rajah Soorut Sing is the ancient Dewan; that he has no power over the papers or accounts; that such accounts as have been wanted by you have been obtained with difficulty and delay;

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delay; and that people who have no connection with the management of the Dufter, execute the business of the office; that it is necessary that orders be issued to the Aumils and Shurarishtedars that every account required by the Rajah Soorut Sing, together with the accounts of every Mahaul, and every district, and every Shurarishteh, be entered, under the inspection of the Rajah Soorut Sing, in the Dewan Cutcharry, for which a proper building must be set apart without delay or evasion; so that every transaction, and all accounts, and the Shurrarishteh thereof, may be conducted and written, and managed by the proper officers of the Dewannee.

The whole of the Dufter papers or accounts, from the earliest period down to the present time, have been, and are kept in the Dufter Kaunah of the Surcar of his Highness, under the charge of the Dewannee Mootasuddies; and Rajah Soorut Sing now possesses his post of Dewan, and receives his Dewannee Russoom and Dustoor from all the Aumils; and his Mootasuddies, in the department of accounts, write or keep those accounts; and the Dewannee Cutcherry is, as heretofore, adjoining to his Highness's palace.

With respect to your observation, that people without authority or connection with the Dufter, and its Shurrarishteh, execute the business thereof:—this remark is levelled at the Neabut Dufter. In this Surcar, whoever has been appointed Naib, and has had the power of inspecting the accounts, he has kept a Neabut Dufter; and of the Naibs or Ministers so appointed, such as were illiterate, or negligent, or dissipated, stood in need of assistance. Thus the Rajah Nurwull Raie, in the time of the Nurwaub Sufdur Jung, who on all occasions himself inspected into the affairs of the Government: the Rajah Pertaub Sing was Dewan, and Raja Nuvval Raie, the Minister who had access to all accounts, appointed Dewan Lauljie his own Dewaun or Sub-minister, which was approved by the Nuvvaub Sufder Jung. In the time of the late Nuvvaub Shuja ul Dowlah, Raja Benu Bahadur appointed Roy Deen Deaub his Dewan or Minister under him; and now his Highness the Vizier has honoured the Nuvvaub Sufrerauz ul Dowlah and me, by appointing us to those offices; and I to the best of my ability exert myself in inspecting the accounts. The Neabut Dufter is an established office in this Surcar; from former times, and agreeably to his Highness's pleasure he has appointed the Raja Tickait Raie to the Shurarishtehdaree of that office. I am constantly employed in inspecting or examining the accounts of the Surcar, and his Highness, and the Gentlemen heretofore in office here, were wont to depend upon me. The accounts

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counts of the Aumils come to me, and correſponding to the cuſtoms of this Surcar, the Aumils deliver them in alſo to the Dewannee Mootaſuddees. I receive theſe accounts from the Mootaſuddees of the Dewannee, and the Neabut, and having inſpected and examined them, I lay them before his highneſs. Hitherto no deficiencies or defects in the accounts of the Surcar have ariſen from my management; if you have diſcovered any ſuch, be pleaſed to point them out, that I may deliver in my defence thereon.

From your firſt arrival, whatever papers you have required, whether proper or improper, I have cauſed them to be written and delivered to you; for theſe five months paſt, ſo inceſſantly have I been employed in this buſineſs, that my health has frequently ſuffered thereby, and to that even I have paid no regard. Notwithſtanding this ready obedience, you declare that you obtain papers or accounts with delay.

You further ſay, reſpecting this Dufter of the Neabut, and my authority over the ſame, "That people who have "no concern with this Shurariſhteh execute the affairs "thereof." I have not from my own authority engaged or entered into any buſineſs whatever: under the commands of his Highneſs, and with the ſupport and aſſiſtance of the gentlemen formerly reſiding here, I engaged in theſe affairs, and was confided in; nor has any deficiency happened on my part. Of whatever nature your commands may now be, I will obey them; and whatever the meaſure of your pleaſure may be, let that be the meaſure of them.

Many circumſtances of the conduct of Rajahs Soorut Sing, and Tippur Chund, have been ſuch as to draw upon them the anger of his Highneſs, and I have procured his forgiveneſs of their faults. When you formerly reſided here, Mukhtaur ul Dowlah, with your knowledge, confined Raja Tippur Chund, and exacted a mulct, or fine, from the Raja Soorut Sing; I have done them no evil, but have always aided and ſupported them as the ancient ſervants of the Surcar; if, like Mukhtaur ul Dowlah, I had wiſhed to injure them, I ſhould not, when they were under the diſpleaſure of his Highneſs, have applied in their behalf. I have all along acted with the utmoſt cordiality towards all the ſervants of the Surcar.

Narrative of Converſation between Mr. Briſtow and Hyder Beg Khaun, written by Hyder Beg Khaun.

Copy: Received 4th May, 1783.

Mr. Briſtow came in the evening; his converſation firſt turned upon affairs in Europe:—that other gentlemen were coming, in conſequence of the diſmiſſion of the Go-

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vernor and others;—that the person who was coming in the place of the Governor, who was a chief of high rank, was related to Mr. Cooper;—that the idea which lately existed, that by the appointment of a former minister, who was the friend of the Governor, the Governor's stability would be secured, was at length known to be erroneous, for that the Governor's misconduct was now plainly proved and ascertained in Europe. "Therefore," he said, "it is my wish that you and I should enter into mutual engagements, for by acting in concert with each other, affairs will be effectually conducted. I have been recommended in Europe to those gentlemen who are coming, and my heart is every way at rest with respect to my own affairs."

I asked him for what particular purposes it was that he required such securities from me? he replied, for the well modelling the Vizier's Government; and furthermore, that you shall not enter into engagements with any one but me.

I asked what was his plan for modelling the Vizier's Government, in the execution of which he was desirous of my acting with him? he repeated verbally some articles. I called for pen and ink, and wrote them down as he repeated them, [vide articles] and then asked whether those were all? or if there was any thing more? He replied, "This plan, after this manner is, agreeable to the orders of the Governor, and the Gentlemen of the Council, directed to be carried into execution; which, at a time of my coming here, they gave to me personally, and delivered to me in writing. Their orders for the establishment of the Persian Dufter have been lately written and received by me, and I have written to the Gentlemen of the Council that the settlement for the present year was made before my arrival, but that I will carry it into execution at the beginning of the next."

I said, "Since such a plan is to be carried into execution by the orders of the Governor General, I will not in any manner hesitate to obey his orders; but your disposition is so doubting and suspicious, that the sincerity and uprightness of my intentions have been useless, and of no avail." That respecting his directions, declared by him to be the orders of the Governor, "that such things were not to depend on the Nuvvaub's being informed of them," from an apprehension for my honour; as he had said, "that any evasions or objections which might arise, would not be the Nuvvaub's, but mine;" I had executed them. That now, from the introduction of the present plan, the authority of his Highness would be annihilated altogether, that if the Nuvvaub should hesitate

ſtate to conſent to this plan, what were his intentions in that caſe?

He replied, "I will not ſuffer it to depend on the Nuv-"vaub's compliance or non-compliance; I will carry it "into execution." I anſwered, that I would not, in any manner whatever, diſpute the Governor's commands, for that I was declaredly a dependent on him, and was ſatisfied that whatever he ſhould order muſt be right in every reſpect; but deſired, that in caſe I ſhould, agreeably to his (Mr. Briſtow's) orders, execute this buſineſs in oppoſition to the inclinations of the Nuvvaub, he would procure, for my ſecurity and ſatisfaction, a letter from the Governor directed to me, importing, that I muſt act agreeably to whatever he (Mr. Briſtow) might direct, and that I muſt not ſuffer my compliance to depend on aſſent or diſſent on the part of his Highneſs, as in that caſe, if his Highneſs ſhould be offended, I ſhould, on this ſide, be ſure of protection and ſupport: nay, that it appeared neceſſary, moreover, that theſe articles ſhould be written and tranſmitted to me.

He replied, "I tell you that the Governor is diſmiſſed, "of what uſe is it then to require letters from thence?" I anſwered, That I was a dependent on the Governor; as long as he continued at Calcutta I would act in obedience to his pleaſure; and whenever the period of his departure ſhould arrive, I would go to him, and would then do as he ſhould direct.

He replied, "All this labour and trouble is unneceſſary; "I offer you the ſecurities neceſſary, being perfectly ſa-"tisfied and ſecure myſelf, with reſpect to the gentlemen "who are coming. I will give you a Coul Naumeh, "binding myſelf to ſupport and promote your intereſts, "both in Calcutta and in Europe."

I anſwered, That he muſt not conſider my declarations of dependance on the Governor as a matter of profeſſion only, but be aſſured to a certainty that whenever poſitive information ſhould be received, that he was about to depart for Europe, I would wait upon him; and in whatever manner he ſhould direct ſo I would act.

"It appears then," ſaid he, "that you will withdraw "yourſelf from the management of affairs here?" I replied, That I executed the duties of my office, in fact, through the influence of the Governor's ſupport; when he was gone to Europe, through the influence of whoſe protection was I to manage affairs? that I would not continue.

He was offended at this declaration; and replied, I am every way ready to give you ſecurity and ſatisfaction; ſuch confidence in the diſpoſition of the Governor, or in his intimates

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intimates and dependants, is idle and ill-founded. It is impoſſible to place dependance on the Governor's word or declarations. I ſaid that hitherto, from the beginning, his kindneſs towards me had been always increaſing; I had never experienced any deficiency or alteration in his diſpoſitions towards me; and "that human nature is the "ſlave of kindneſs," was amongſt us a proverb. Much converſation of this ſort paſſed between us. After that he ſaid, "I will cauſe the orders I have received reſpecting "the modelling of this Government to be tranſlated into "Perſian by my Moonſhee, who is a truſt-worthy per-"ſon, and deliver it to you. You will do well to follow "the example of Mokhtaur-ul-Dowleh, and enter into a "written engagement and agreement with me."

In order to know of what nature Mokhtaur-ul-Dowleh's Coul Naumeh was, I propoſed to him to give me a copy of it, that I might conſider it; but added, that ſecurity on the part of the Governor was abſolutely neceſſary in the firſt inſtance; that he, Mr. Briſtow, aſſerted that the Governor was undoubtedly diſmiſſed, in conſequence of which my faculties and underſtanding were no longer in the ſtate neceſſary to do buſineſs.

He encouraged me by aſſurances of his own ſtability; and ſaid, "The day after to-morrow I ſhall go to Sluttree Ghaut, there I ſhall have leaſure; I will remain "there two days. I will cauſe the tranſlation of the orders "for the modelling and arranging of affairs here to be "written, and give it to you on my return."

Conſidering a reſpite of three or four days as an advantage gained, I expreſſed the greateſt approbation; again I repeated the queſtion on this point, whether theſe were the orders; that, whether his Highneſs ſhould be ſatisfied or diſſatisfied, at all events the buſineſs muſt be done? He ſaid "yes, the orders are abſolute. If his Highneſs ſhould "prove obſtinate I will not advance any thing for the ex-"pences of his Surcor, I will ſtop it; when he ſhall be "diſtreſſed for his neceſſary expences, he will acquieſce of "his own accord."

He then opened to me the real object of yeſterday's converſation; ſaying, there was certain points on which, on the arrival of the new Gentlemen, caution would be neceſſary. I aſked him on what points; he ſaid, "Such "as the buſineſs of Colonel Cumming, in which a ſhoc-"cah was written without the Vizier's knowledge; and "others of the like nature which may have taken place; "This circumſtance has proved highly diſagreeable to the "Gentlemen of the Council. Whenever his Highneſs ſhall "aſſert that theſe things have been done without his "knowledge, blame will fall upon you."

I replied,

I replied, That in obedience to him I had caused it to be done; that he had repeatedly asked me why I introduced the name of the Vizier; that I must act as he directed; that, especially in the business of the shocca to Colonel Cumming, he had importuned me for three days; from a regard to the preservation of my honour, I had caused it to be written without the Vizier's knowledge; that the same had been done with respect to the Tunkaw of the Toorksuvvaurs, and other matters.

He replied, "It is on this account I say to you, that "now that you and I are about to be united, you must "consider any thing injurious to my reputation which "shall befall me, as befalling yourself; and thus, any "thing of that sort happening to you, I shall consider as "happening to me. You replied angerly to my letter, "that by my desire you had affixed the seal of the Vizier, "without his knowledge, to the shoccahs, and delivered "them."

I replied, That this was not written in anger; that he had accused me of disobeying the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council, and his pleasure; that I, in reply, had inserted the particulars, which I had done in obedience to the orders communicated by him, and to his pleasure; that if I had not inserted them, I should have appeared guilty of the disobedience charged upon me; that if I had written any thing not founded in fact, he would have accused me of it at the time, or he could do it then, and demand my reasons for such and such false assertions.

He replied, "The things which you write are of such "a nature, that a fair and direct answer cannot be given, "but in certain affairs, which may prove the subjects of "inquiry or accusation against me, it will be better to "keep silence."—I answered, that with respect to what he said to me verbally, I would act agreeably to his pleasure; but that when he thought proper to put his sentiments upon paper, and give them in writing, if I did answer them faithfully and fully, I myself should be subject to accusations.

He answered, "I will be careful in this respect for the "future, and not write; silence, however, on this subject, "is necessary on your part, that it may not be known to "the gentlemen who are coming, that the Vizier's seal "has been affixed to papers and shockas without his know-"ledge." I said, that when the new gentlemen should arrive, and I should continue here in the management of affairs, I would act in whatever manner he should please to direct.

His object is, that it may not now be discovered that the Vizier's seal has been affixed to shoccahs without his know-

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ledge: he did not plainly and directly say it, but obliquely and secretly he hinted as much; and said, "The complaints and reflections which have lately been exhibited against me at the Board have been disapproved, and that which I have written has met with approbation; but such matters must not be made known to the Gentlemen."

Much more he said, containing reflections on the Gentlemen in the Governor's confidence, advice respecting the execution of the plan, and the deceiving of the Vizier; so that by throwing him off his guard, the business might be effected; adding, "When it is once done, how will his Highness then be able to remedy it? thus it was that Mokhtaur ul Dowlah and I, in concert, carried our points, by representing matters as trivial or advantageous, or by holding out temptations of various descriptions to the Vizier; and when the business was once executed he was silent, nor knew or foresaw the ultimate consequences which would follow. In the same manner you must now advise the Nuvvaub as I shall direct you, and having by artifice obtained his approbation, carry it into execution."

This conversation he spun out to a prodigious length; to attempt to write it would be endless. I said thus much in reply, that with respect to the execution of measures contrary to the inclinations of the Vizier, as intended by him, that I would not hesitate to obey the Governor's orders, communicated to me as such; but that to procure a letter of assurance from the Governor, to the purport already mentioned, was absolutely necessary, that I might be secured from the consequences of the Nuvvaub's resentment.

He replied, "I will cause a Persian translation of the orders to be made, and give it to you, and we will after that talk again. Assurance or security from the Governor is unnecessary, since in a short time he will set out for Europe." I repeated my former answer.—It remains to be seen hereafter what the next conversation will produce.

Articles for the Regulation of the Country and Household of his Highness, which Mr. Bristow caused to be written.

Having appointed a new Treasurer, I will establish the general Treasury of the country in two places; one for the Surcor of the Company, the other for the expences of the Nuvvaub's household establishments, for the Tunkhaw and

and Jageerdars. What ſhall be neceſſary for the Nuvvaub's expences, &c. I will iſſue in money.

I will keep the Perſian Dufter of the Governmental officers, and the Mootaſuddies, and will appoint a Dewan to ſuperintend the ſame.

Having diſmiſſed the Aumils appointed by his Highneſs, I will appoint other Aumils.

I will keep the cavalry and the infantry under my own authority, and what other troops may be neceſſary I will raiſe them alſo by my own authority.

I will keep the buſineſs of the Adaulut under my authority; ſuch expences for ſuperfluous elephants and horſes in the Nuvvaub's Dowaub, and for proviſions dreſſed, are unneceſſary; let him diminiſh them.

I will take the old dufters and papers which are in the Surcor of his Highneſs.

Having diſmiſſed the great Aumils, I will appoint ſeparate inferior Aumils in their places.

Narrative of Converſation between Mr. Briſtow and Hyder Beg Khaun, on the 30th of April, 1783, written by the latter.

Copy: Received May 13th, 1783.

On our meeting, he (Mr. Briſtow) ſaid, "How has it "come to paſs that a report of the Coul Nameh, founded "on conditions, has been ſpread abroad?" I replied, that I did not know; that the conditions which he had communicated for the Bundabut of this place, and concerning which he had been engaged in a warfare with his Highneſs for theſe laſt five months, were known to all the world; that there was no neceſſity for their publication by any one; that as to the preſent Coul Nameh propoſed by him, and his declaration, that the Governor and Gentlemen of the Council were diſmiſſed, that new Gentlemen were coming, and propoſing the ſaid Coul Naumeh for the period, on condition that I ſhould not write to, or enter into engagements, at Calcutta, and other matters, which he mentioned, I had not told them to any one. He ſaid, it is aſtoniſhing! it is only ten days ſince I mentioned the diſmiſſion of the Governor to you, and at which time Mr. Cooper mentioned it to Major Palmer, and I have received letters twelve days old from Calcutta, informing me that Major Davy has reported to the Governor, that I have publiſhed the account of his diſmiſſion; hence it is plain that Major Davy has told an abſolute falſehood. In this ſpace of ten days, an account of my publication of it to reach Calcutta, and an anſwer to arrive here! I will write that Major Davy has told a falſehood. I replied,

that

that if ſuch intelligence had actually reached Calcutta, it muſt evidently relate to his (Mr. Briſtow's) firſt report; for that he had firſt ſaid, formerly, "that in conſequence "of the appointment of the new Miniſter, the diſmiſſion "of the Governor was affixed;" and ſome time after that he again ſaid, "that the new Miniſter was dead, and that "accounts of, or orders for, the continuance of the Go-"vernor would arrive:" correſponding with which, when he lately mentioned the diſmiſſion of the Governor, he had ſaid, that this intelligence was not like the former; "that the Governor continued in conſequence of the "death of the Vizier;" "that now the news of the Go-"vernor's diſmiſſion was authentic," "that other Gen-"tlemen were on their way out;" that perhaps, it was his (Mr. Briſtow's) former report that had been mentioned by Major Davy, for *that* had happened long ago. He replied, What cauſe have you to plead thus in ſupport of the truth of Major Davy's communications? I ſaid, that he had aſſerted, "that Major Davy had told a falſehood, "and that he would write ſo to Calcutta:" that I therefore reminded him of his former report, that what he ſhould write might not be liable to refutation. He then began to caſt reflections upon Major Davy; ſaying, "he "is outwardly your friend, but in reality meditated your "diſmiſſion, and concerted the means of doing it with the "Raja Tippurchund, and the Dewan Soorut Sing." I obſerved, that formerly Mr. Johnſon had alſo hinted the ſame thing, "that Major Davy, who was gone to Cal-"cutta, would ſpeak to the prejudice of his Highneſs and "me." But that all that I at laſt diſcovered was, that Major Davy had here communicated the Governor's orders as he had received them; and that he had faithfully related to the Governor the converſations which had paſſed between us. He replied, "I have expended "to the amount of thirty thouſand rupees, and have, "from different quarters, informed myſelf of every par-"ticular; do you [but] expend ten or twenty thouſand, "and the circumſtances of Major Davy's enmity to you "ſhall be known from the people of the Rajah Tippur-"chund, and the Dewan Soorut Sing." I replied, That I had no doubts or ſuſpicions reſpecting theſe matters that could induce me to enquire into them, or to expend money for that purpoſe; that theſe particulars had never been introduced heretofore; otherwiſe, if they had the power, in this ſpace of ſix months they had each of them the opportunity. I ſaid, that I had no ſort of concern with the Major, and that the perſon who had mentioned it to him muſt have told a falſehood. He ſaid, "You are eloquent in ſupporting, or taking the part of

"Major

"Major Palmer and Major Davy." I anfwered, That this accufation was a plain, downright calumny. What fort of anfwer could I give? from what circumftances did this partiality appear?—that thefe reflections concerned *me*. I muft either believe them, or not believe them; if he had any meaning in thefe communications, I requefted him to tell it, that it might be known to me. He faid, "Major "Palmer, with the advice of Tuffuz-ool Hoofein Khaun, "writes falfehoods from hence;" and *there* Major Davy communicates them with additions. I have expended money in obtaining information of thefe matters: two gentlemen under the appearance of friendfhip are with Major Davy, one or two others are here with Major Palmer. My friends are united together, and obtain information of what is going forward; two people are with Tuffuz-ool Hoofein Khaun; all thefe matters have reached me: that the one has written falfehoods with refpect to me from hence, and that the other has communicated and does communicate them. I was watchful from the firft on this account "and will anfwer to every particular. Will "you take part with the Majors, or will you fide with "me?" I replied, the Majors are not writers of intelligence, they are Englifh gentlemen; I am a native of Hindoftan, the matter will not depend upon my evidence. He replied, "Mr. Johnfon has demanded an examination into "the complaints and accufations which you formerly "wrote againft him, and it is determined that orders fhall "be fent to you and me to produce the proofs." I faw plainly that, under this pretence, he wanted to introduce propofals refpecting evidence for himfelf. I faid that Mr. Johnfon had difobeyed the orders of the Governor in the affair of the ten lacks rupees, &c. and had endeavoured to throw the blame upon me, and that I had no doubt, given information refpecting my innocence. He faid, "are "there other matters alfo? if there are inform me of "them, that you may prove the culpability of Mr. John-"fon, agreeably to your reprefentations, for the orders "of the Council will now arrive." I anfwered, that what I had faid and written fhould undoubtedly be proved. He faid, "you mention nothing to me of the prefent corre-"fpondence, and what I tell you is a fact; for feveral "original letters of Major Davy's have fallen into my "hands." I replied, that fince Major Davy's letters had fallen into his hands, there was no neceffity for his making inquiries of me. He faid, "I mention it on this account, "that you and I may, with our lives and fortunes, be "united with each other. I will exert myfelf in your in-"terefts both in Calcutta and in Europe; the endeavours "of the Majors will end in nothing." I afked, to what object

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object his views were then directed, that he talked to me in that manner; and added, that he was the ruler here, and that I was subordinate to him, and that whatever he should direct with respect to both Surears, I should obey:—what business or connection had I with the disputes between gentlemen?—he replied, "I have done you no ill; "during these six months that I have been here, I had "both the opportunity and the power, at all times, to de-"prive you of the office of Neabut;—I have kept you in "office;—you will not unite with me." I replied, that he had at all times the power, and that he might dismiss me whenever he thought proper; but that I had never been wanting in obedience to him. When he saw that I would say nothing, he again proceeded to sooth and flatter, giving to me copies of the orders, and complaints, and Coul Nameh (vide 10, 11) which he had caused to be written by his Moonshee, and desiring me to read them with a loud voice. I read them:—he said, "Such ex-"pressions as are harsh in these papers you may alter."—I replied, that he had told me he would write translations of the orders of the Governor and Gentlemen of the Council, respecting the Bundabust of this place; were those complaints also inserted therein? it was very well, he might moreover write whatever else he thought proper; but requested that he would cause the orders, and what was his pleasure, to be written separately, and the circumstances of complaint, and incapacity on my part, separately; and that I would write and deliver an answer to these circumstances of complaint and incapacity, and desired him to reflect or consider, whether they were well founded or ill founded. I added, that I had never required a Coul Naumeh from him, why did he deliver the draft of one to me?—that obedience on my part, and kindness and attention on his, were sufficient. He replied, "You must in "fact take these papers home with you, and read them "again." I said, that if it was for the purpose of proving thus much, that he had written and delivered such papers to me; and that he had declared so and so, and that he might make good or prove the justness of the accusations or complaints upon me, it was unnecessary; and that if I took them, what would be the consequence? I was ready to answer these allegations, and would give such answers in refutation of them all, that not one of them should be fixed upon me. He replied, "I speak to you in "friendship, or with purity of heart; you answer me with "enmity, or in resentment." I said, that he had openly caused circumstances of complaint or accusation, and of direct falsehood, to be written; and yet said, "that he "spoke in friendship." He replied, "I will cause it to "be

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"be written as you may think proper." I anſwered, that I made no objections, nor would I take the accuſation upon me, by the alteration of the letter of it; that at his (Hyder Beg Khawn's) deſire, I altered ſuch and ſuch particulars; that I would write matter of fact anſwers in refutation of theſe accuſations; his orders and his pleaſure, whatever they were, reſpecting the Bundobuſt, he might cauſe to be written, and deliver them, that thoſe I could obey; and would give ſuch an anſwer as ſhould correſpond with obedience and reſpect to the Governor's pleaſure. He ſaid, "I "will talk again upon this ſubject at our next interview." As it was intended that I ſhould take the papers, I, in compliance with Mr. Briſtow's importunities, brought them home. I ſhall not draw out the reply to and return them:—Such are the anſwers to every article, that with God's favour, not a place ſhall remain for accuſation to reſt upon. Again he mentioned the ſpreading the report reſpecting the Governor's diſmiſſion; ſaying, "Mr. Cooper told it to "Major Palmer, and Major Palmer ſpread the report; in "proof of it, Mr. Cooper wrote a note to Major Palmer, "to which he returned a ſhort anſwer." I aſked him, what neceſſity there was for repeatedly renewing this converſation with me? that ten different people had been informed of it by Mr. Cooper. He ſaid, "I have mentioned it to "no one but you." I replied, that what he had mentioned to me, was known to me;—with reſpect to others, I was uninformed whether he had mentioned it or not. He ſaid, "The buſineſs reſpecting the Vizier's ſeal, which was done "without his knowledge, is not well: If any one ſhall "queſtion you, why the Vizier's ſeal was affixed without "his knowledge, what anſwer will you give?" I replied, that the anſwer would be *that* which I formerly gave to him in writing. He ſaid, "Do you want to prove the accu- "ſation upon me?" I anſwered, that I had obeyed his orders, and that he wanted to fix the fault upon me. He replied, "We are about to be united, with our lives and "fortunes together, it muſt be our buſineſs to do away, or "cover the faults of each other." I ſaid, that I could not openly take the blame upon myſelf. He ſaid, "I gave "up the deſign of receiving the Tunkhau of the Toork- "ſuvvaurs, for this reaſon, that the ſhoccahs reſpecting "them were written without the knowledge of the Vizier." I anſwered, That what he did he did upon reflection and deliberation, and it was well. He ſaid, "I have determined that "in future, if on my requiſitions the Nuvvaub gives me "the ſhoccahs voluntarily, ſo much the better, if not, "I will execute the buſineſs under my own ſeal." Again he repeated, The aſpect of affairs will now be new at Calcutta, for new gentlemen are coming, let the correſpondence

to

to Calcutta " be dropt." I replied, that I had nothing to do with these matters. Much more in the same style passed between us, which it would be endless to relate.

Narrative of a Conversation between Mr. Bristow and Hyder Beg Khaun, on the first of May, written by the latter, in his own hand.

Received May 13th, 83.

Mr. Bristow said to me to-day, at our meeting, I told you that you should not rely on the declarations of the Majors: At length you have been deceived by them, and by their advice, have caused complaints to be written by the Vizier, and have written complaints yourself against me; and they have been laid before the Board, and an answer has been received. Whatever I do, I give information beforehand. What has been obtained by these complaints? I have done no ill to you; but have kept you in office—and you gave me no information of this correspondence—at length I am informed of it. I replied, The Majors had never attempted tricks and deceptions; that every one sought his own advantage; and that when his Highness saw that he (Mr. Bristow) was not well-disposed towards him, and that disputes, and measures to deprive him of his authority, were daily brought forward, without remedy he had wrote his situation to that place whence he could look for redress.—He flew instantly into a rage, and said, " What instance of deprivation of authority is " there? and how has he been deprived of his authority?" I replied, That in the affairs of his household, of his servants, &c. he had reduced him to such a condition, that the Nuvvaub had intreated, implored him, for God's sake, telling him, " that he got nothing by it; that he rendered *him* contemptible without reason, and brought discredit on himself:" That he (Mr. Bristow) refused to listen to the Nuvvaub's representations, and told him, that he would act so: That after much altercation he had promised, that upon the establishment of his authority he would represent the business to the Governor and Gentlemen of the Council, in the style of a recommendation: That it was at *that* period that the Nuvvaub also wrote respecting his situation. He replied, " What, after all, has been got by it? The " Governor is not able to turn me out, and the complaints " against me have not been approved of by the Board." I said, that since the complaints had not been approved of by the Board, why was he disturbed; he ought to be happy, or pleased? that what would be the lot of his Highness, and our lot, we should hereafter see.—He said, " Give me copies

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copies of what has been written from hence." I replied, That he had said that he was long since acquainted with all that was passing, and that copies of all the letters would be sent to him by the Board: If that was the case, where was the necessity for demanding copies from me? After much fury and agitation, he said, "Still listen to reason, and "unite with me; for by your junction with me affairs "shall be conducted." I replied, that since the complaints had been laid before the Board, at last orders of approval or disapproval of the Nuvvaub's requisitions would arrive; that those orders would be sufficient. He answered, "I "have received no letter from the Board—my friend has "wrote to me, that complaints against me, and a requi-"sition for my removal, and proposals for paying the mo-"ney, have been written by the Nuvvaub—that he will "pay off the whole of the Company's demands. Where "is the money which he will pay? if it is forthcoming, "why don't he pay it to me?" I told him, That the money which was formerly received was paid by his Highness; and by the same means that he now got it from the Nuvvaub's country, his Highness could himself pay it with ease; that the receipts of revenues from the country did not depend upon his collection of them. He replied, "Then you are not as yet acquainted with our character—"that where we once obtain power, we never relinquish "that power, but add to it daily." I said, that I had frequently observed to him, that there were select and chosen characters amongst all nations and people; that the Governor, from the observations I had made, was such a person that perhaps there was none like him amongst the people of his nation; that one instance of his disposition, and of his generosity, was this—that whereas he (Mr. Bristow) had delineated the national character, by saying, "Where we "have obtained power, we never relinquish it, but add to "it daily;" on the contrary, the Governor, on being satisfied of the Nuvvaub's difficulties, had allowed of a diminution of the expences he laboured under, and had treated him with attention. He replied—Yes; you imagine that the Governor will support your interests—it will be known hereafter. The Governor's support will be of no avail. Say he is the Governor still—the three other Gentlemen of the Council are on my side. I answered, That since the whole Council was on his side, and that he was determined to annihilate the Nuvvaub's authority; that his Highness, seeing and knowing both his own inability and the Governor's, would sit down in patience; and that when the Governor should recover his power, he would obtain his rights. He said, "The chain [of my friends] is established in Europe—the Governor has not

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"the power to break it—it will be better that you join "with me; I will unite with you with my life and property." I replied, That while he continued in the conduct of affairs here, I would not be wanting in obedience; that now there was no further room for conference on either side; whatever orders should come from the Board, those should be obeyed. He replied, "Even this shall not force "me to withdraw my hand—Khaun, say that you will "join with me." Again I said, that he had declared the business to be before the Board; that I would submit to such orders as should be issued by the Board. He replied, "You catch at my words—I have not received accounts "from the Board of the matter being brought before them; "and I tell you plainly, Hyder Beg Khaun Sahib, that "what passes verbally between you and me, is no proof; "whatever has been committed to paper, *that* is proof." I replied, That, by God's blessing, his verbal declarations were more respectable than writings; for what he said, he said upon reflection and deliberation: That all that had passed between us hitherto had been verbal and in private, and alone; and that he had repeatedly declared, that he never would retract from what he said, and that I gave credit to it; but if we must now commit to paper, I said, be it so. He replied, "Will you cause credit to be given also "to the falsehoods written from hence by Major Palmer?" I said, That I was not acquainted with Major Palmer's correspondence; what he has communicated from me, that I know.—He continued silent: Again he said, "The al"tercation about the seal, &c. which may be brought for"ward, what shall you say on the subject? You do not "consult your own interests in writing complaints against "us people—we English gentlemen, in the end, are all as "one person. You have so blasted, and will blast, your "reputation, that no one will confide in you." I said, To dispute with me respecting the seal was needless; that I had answered the question a hundred times, and that my answer was still the same, which I had repeatedly declared, and given in writing: That I had never betrayed or informed against any English gentleman, to blast my reputation (by such circumstance); and moreover, that it was from a regard to that particular that I did not give to him the papers relating to the conduct of Colonel Hannay: That he had forced them from me: That mankind, for the obtainment of their wishes, looked towards their Creator, and in this world towards their immediate superior; that to approve or disapprove was at the discretion of that superior; that in this respect there was no betraying or informing, nor any just cause for complaint, let the matter be attended to or rejected. Again, he said, "With respect to the business of

" of the Adalut, false reports have been unjustly circulated " through the city—what business have I with these af- " fairs?" I replied, that till yesterday it had been enjoined that the Adaulut Kutcharee should not be held in the Kutcharee of the Nuvvaub's palace; that I should cause four buildings in the city to be got ready and delivered up, one for the Adaulut, the second for the Kutcharee of the Persian Dewannee Dufter, the third for the Nuvvaub's household, and the fourth for the treasury of the Jageerdars and Tunkhaudars, and that —— had gone yesterday respecting the four buildings. He replied, " I say this now, " that the buildings should be separate; to put a stop to " irregularities, and murders, and house-breakings in the " city of Lucknow, I proposed, and do propose, the esta- " blishment of the Adaulut." I replied, that the regulations, and the police, &c. each of them, as were in use in this country, had been laid before him; that the Daurogeh of the Adaulut was to pass his decision, according to the Shurra; that to go the rounds of the city, in the manner of a Cutwal, was the business of an Officer of Police; that these irregularities were remedied formerly, and should be now; and that the reports circulated amongst the people were owing to Mr. Cooper, who had superscribed the Erzees with the Dustkhur in the style of a master or superior lord. Exceedingly offended at this observation, he replied, It is not so; he wrote on them for [the Nuvvaub's] information only. I answered, that he might send for the Erzees, and give them to any Mootasuddee, and ask him, whether that which was written, and the place where it was written, corresponded with the Dustkhut of a superior Lord, or whether it was written for the purpose of giving information. He replied, " It is evident that you mean to inform against " me; I am under no sort of apprehension—I have received " assurances from the Board—my mind is at ease with re- " spect to Europe—What can any one do? I will establish " my authority here—if you will unite with me, it is well " —if not, I am no longer under obligations." I replied, as heretofore, by declarations of obedience and submission. He answered, Much has been said on that score. At taking leave he said, " Don't let what has passed between us to- " day be known to any one."

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khaun; written on the 29th of Jummaud ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 2d May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 30th of June, 1783.
Usual introduction.

I was informed to-day by the Mouluvvee Mahummud Mubeen, that in opposition to the contents of my letter,

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written the day before yesterday, you have treated him with great harshness and severity, and have given orders that he should immediately hold the Adaulut Cutcharee in the Baradurree, and that you reproved the Mouluvvee for communicating the state of that place, and his own want of authority, to me; in consequence of which, the Mouluvvee's mind is filled with alarms and apprehensions, which have led him again to communicate his anxiety and uneasiness to me. Notwithstanding you formerly wrote to me, in your letter of the 26th of Jummaud ul Awul, that you would apply to his Highness respecting another place, yet to-day, which is the 29th of Jummaud ul Awul, such is the severe and harsh manner in which you have treated the Mouluvvee on this subject, it is matter of astonishment. The truth, in plain terms, is, that many people here excuse themselves from coming to see me, both by letter and by message, from their fears and apprehensions of your resentment. And it has come to my knowledge, that you, some days since, publicly declared, "that whoever should "visit a certain person (thereby meaning me) should not "be the better for it." You call yourself a dependant on the Company; be pleased to reflect whether such harshness and severity towards the Mouluvvee Mahummud Mubeen, and the intimidating people from holding communication with me, is proper: In my opinion this conduct is to be considered as the most pointed deficiency in your intentions, duty, and attachment to the Governor General. In transacting the affairs of the Company, and proving my attachment to his Highness's Surcar, I hope on every occasion to receive the most effectual assistance and support from you; and that the friends, well-wishers, and dependants of both Surcars being united, they may continue to exert themselves in performing their duty, and on this account, from the day of my arrival here, I have in the transaction of every business made my representations to his Highness through you; and, except the conducting of the affairs of the Surcar agreeably to orders, I have entertained no other intentions towards you; with respect to the Fouzdaree Adalut I have attended to it merely from a regard to the benefit and prosperity of mankind, and the due punishment of robberies and murders. I now write for your information, that in case any injury should be offered towards the Mouluvvee, it will be inconsistent with friendship; and that I will, at all events, protect his life and honour; and that by the non-establishment of the Fouzdaree Adalut, I shall be freed from responsibility. And I again give you information that you must, agreeably to what I formerly wrote, fix upon a proper and convenient house, and deliver it over to the Mouluvvee. As I shall transmit all the letters which

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which pass between us respecting the Adaulut to the Governor General, I therefore, from a principle of friendship, request of you to favour me with a full and explicit answer on the above subject.

From Hyder Beg Khaun to Mr. Bristow; written on the 29th of Jummaud ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 2d of May, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I have received your favour, and am surprized at the contents, that things should have come to this pass, that I should be daily attending you, yet that people should represent such falsehoods; and that you, without inquiry, should blame or condemn me upon them. How can I defend myself, if, in a matter in which a person asperses me without cause, I may not require an explanation from that person? In this case the fault cannot be proved upon me: It is moreover a matter of duty to acquit myself of groundless aspersions, that I should inquire into them, and represent my innocence to you.—You are pleased to say, that instead of a house, I ordered a tent for the Adaulut Cutcharee: In this instance my ignorance is positively proved upon me. The reason for proposing the tent, I represented fully to you yesterday, that when his Highness was on his hunting excursion, and you gave directions about a house, sending a message by the Mouluvvee to that effect, I replied, that I had wrote an Erzee to his Highness respecting a place for the Adaulut Cutcharee; and that if there was any open place near his dwelling, I would order a tent to be pitched for the purpose of holding the Cutcharee for three or four days, until orders should arrive from the presence: And this circumstance has been represented from me in such manner, that you construe it into culpability of conduct on my part. How is it possible that I could order a tent for the perpetual Adaulut Cutcharee in the city? When his Highness's orders respecting the place for the Adaulut Cutcharee arrived, I informed the Mouluvvee; the Moluvvee, on the next day but one, told me that Mr. Cooper had directed him to bring to him a written description or plan of the place allotted for the Cutcharee. I desired the Mouluvvee to go himself, and examine it: He did so, and declared that the place was convenient and spacious; and that on the first of the month Jummaud ul Sauni, he would hold the Cutcharee Court therein; that there was another place adjoining, which, if it could be cleared out and allowed for his private use, would be convenient. I replied, that I would cause it to be cleared out, and given to him, i. e. the place where the

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Dewaun Cutcharee, &c. were formerly held. This circumſtance, too, has been repreſented to you as a fault on my part; "that I had allotted two rooms for the Adaulut "Cutcharee;" and that you have repeated it in your letter. I ſpoke to the Mouluvvee on this ſubject, and aſked him, as he had ſeen the place, whether it was two ſmall rooms, or a ſpacious daulaun? He replied, that the place was ſpacious, and that he would hold the Cutcharee there on the firſt of Jummaud ul Saune. I made theſe inquires to acquit myſelf of the aſperſions thrown upon me, as I had been blamed without cauſe or foundation. The attention paid to the Mouluvvee is as follows.

When the execution of orders was angrily directed, the Mouluvve aſked me what he would do, if, according to the law, a perſon ſhould be convicted of corporal puniſhment? I replied, that he ſhould execute the law without heſitation or apprehenſion; and moreover, that if I myſelf ſhould be cited before thatCourt on any account, to eſtabliſh ſubmiſſion to the authority of the Court, and promote the due execution of the ſentence or deciſion of the Shunar, I would be the firſt to ſubmit myſelf to its awards. Inquire into the truth of this circumſtance from the Mouluvvee, and let him anſwer upon oath. His Highneſs encouraged the Mouluvvee to the full exerciſe of the duties of his office, by the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of protection and ſupport: Such being the caſe, be juſt, and decide. What blame can reſt with me reſpecting the eſtabliſhment of the Adaulut?—With regard to your requiſition of a ſeparate building, I have this day repreſented to his Highneſs, and will perſonally communicate his anſwer to you.

In anſwer to your declaration, that I forbid people from the attending you, with reſpect to ſuch repreſentations, which are made by my enemies, it is both proper and juſt that you ſhould favour me ſo far as to aſcertain the truth of them. I am myſelf conſtantly attending on you with folded arms, and without evaſion; why then ſhould I forbid others from attending you? be pleaſed to let us come face to face, and then inquire of the perſon who has communicated this circumſtance to you, when it was that I made uſe of ſuch expreſſions to any one. For theſe ſix years paſt, during which time I have ſerved and obeyed, and executed the commands of the Engliſh Gentlemen, I have never been wanting in duty, nor have I, on any account, ſuffered blame or reproach; but on the contrary, have always been treated with favour and regard; and I know not now what kind of repreſentations people make to you, that, notwithſtanding a degree of obedience, duty, and ſubmiſſion, which has led me to execute many meaſures, in compliance with your orders, without the knowledge of his High-

neſs,

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neſs, yet, relying on the repreſentations of my enemies, who utter the moſt palpable faſehoods againſt me, I am blamed without inquiry or examination on your part. How is it poſſible for me, who am an inferior, to live upon theſe terms? Be pleaſed to order it, and I will attend day and night in an office cloſe to your houſe. To the beſt of my knowledge I have not been, nor am deficient or evaſive in ſubmiſſion, obedience, and duty to the extreme. The diſpenſations of correſponding favour and of juſtice, depends upon your pleaſure.

Mouluvvee Mahummud Mubbeen has juſt come to me by your orders, and informed me, that the Adalut Cutcharee ſhall not be held in that place allotted for it in the Nuvvaub's palace. That you have ordered him not to go there; and had ſaid, that if his Highneſs was to give a ſtill more extenſive building for the purpoſe, the Adalut Cutcharee ſhall not be held in the palace; that it ſhall be ſeparate from it. I replied to the Mouluvvee, that I was obedient to your orders, and that he alſo muſt obey them.

From Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khaun, dated 29th of Jummaud ul Awul, A. H. 1197, or 2d May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, July 3d, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

Doubtleſs the Mouluvvee Mahummud Mubeen, out of reſpect to you, and ſeeing that you do not effectually aſſiſt in eſtabliſhing the Adulut, but on the contrary, reprove him with harſh and ſevere language, from neceſſity, in your preſence, acquieſces in what you ſay; and I alſo, from a regard to his well-being, have told him, on no account to diſobey or deviate from your orders; but to acquaint me with all that paſſes, that I may communicate the ſame to you, and converſe with you on the ſubject in an amicable manner: At length wilful procraſtination on your part is manifeſt. After a length of delay, in anſwer to the requiſition for a commodious building, you firſt ordered a tent, and then two ſmall apartments in the midſt of his Highneſs's palace, where it is abſolutely impracticable to admit the people at large, and to conduct the buſineſs of the Adaulut; without remedy, I remarked the ſtate of the caſe to you in plain and direct terms.—The truth is, that from the day of my arrival here to the preſent time, I have conſtantly recommended the eſtabliſhment of the Adaulut to you; and you, on your part, have profeſſed obedience, but have not, in any manner whatever, exerted yourſelf in carrying the meaſure into effect; on the contrary, with regard to the firſt requiſite, which is the Cutcharee, you have uſed various evaſions; nor have you yet allotted a place for the

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the purpose. The use of improper expressions, the falsehood of which is evident as the sun, is to be considered as vexatious to both. I therefore demand a plain answer from you: Will you allot a commodious building within the city of Lucknow for the purpose, or will you evade it, as heretofore? With respect to your denying having intimidated people from coming to me, the names of those people, and the particular conversations, I will, in due season, make known, and prove to the Governor General: To inform you of the names of those people would be improper. You must remember your own declarations. Although at present you appear to deny, yet, be assured, sooner or later, you will find them unanswerable. It gives me great concern that things should come to such a pass, as to necessitate me, for the preservation of my own honour, to write every thing thus without palliation or disguise.

Concludes as usual.

From Hyder Beg Khaun, to Mr. Bristow, dated the 9th of Jummaud u' Sauni, A. H. 1197, or 12th May, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I have received your favour. I have heretofore repeatedly declared, and I now declare, that I am obedient to your authority. Act in what manner you think proper, I make no objections. Respecting the difference between your verbal and written communications, I have not the power, or presumption, to deviate from the truth in my representations on the subject; and with regard to your observations on the period fixed on by me, is the following circumstance in your opinion true, or not?—That I was at that very period suffering under the affliction consequent to the death of my child?

With respect to the plan and the bundobust, I make no evasions or objections; act in whatever manner you may think proper. There is one important point in the proposed plan, which is the bringing forward and employing the Rajah Soorut Sing, the abolition of the Neabut Duftur, and my expulsion, without fault on my part, from the duties of my office. I am obedient, and will continue to execute your commands as far as is in my power. This is my answer to the plan. Act as you may think proper, I am obedient, and make no objections.

Concludes as usual.

From

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From Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khaun; written on the 21ſt of Jummad u' Saunnee, or 24th May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, June 5th, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

I have on all occaſions ſhewn the readieſt obedience to the commands of the Governor General, and have conducted myſelf with the moſt profound and ſincere reſpect towards him; and moreover, I have conſtantly adviſed and counſelled you to be ſtedfaſt in your duty, obedience, and attachment to him; and at this juncture eſpecially, when various and uncommon reports are circulating, that you ſhould exhibit greater proofs than before of your attachment and fidelity. If I have at any time, either in writing, or verbally, expreſſed myſelf diſreſpectfully towards the Governor General, or have ſpoken depreciatingly or reflectingly of him, or have countenanced or encouraged ſuch behaviour in others, be pleaſed to declare it plainly to me in writing. I ſome time ſince wrote to you, and delivered to you certain orders received from the Governor General; and at the time when I put them into your hands, I told you plainly and unambiguouſly, that many incendiaries, to bias the mind of the Governor General to ruin the affairs of the Sircar, and to deſtroy the friendſhip ſubſiſting between you and me, have communicated, and will communicate, as mine, various calumnies which I have never uttered.

In order to remove every doubt and ſuſpicion, on every ground, I have communicated to you without ceremony my real and undiſguiſed ſentiments and intentions; and over and above this, for your ſecurity and ſatisfaction in the execution of the general plan, I agreed, at your inſtance, to the Coulnameh, a copy of which comes encloſed. With reſpect to the general plan, if there are any expreſſions therein which appear to convey reflections or complaints againſt you, it is not material—point them out to me, and they ſhall be altered in any manner you may think proper. My object has been, by every poſſible means, in conjunction and in friendſhip with you, to carry the Governor General's commands into execution, and that no ſuſpicions whatever ſhould exiſt on either ſide. What is the ſubſtance of the reports which have been circulated reſpecting the inſtability of the Governor General? Be pleaſed to inform me. I have endeavoured to promote the continuance of the friendſhip ſubſiſting between us, and in no manner whatever has there been any failure on my part; on the contrary, I have ſhewn great kindneſs to you. It is neceſſary that you ſhould anſwer all the particulars of this letter clearly, that improper and falſe reports may not hereafter be circulated.

Concludes as uſual.

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From Hyder Beg Khaūn, to Mr. Briſtow ; written 22d of Jummaud u' Sauni, A. H. 1197, or 25th of May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 5th June, 1783.

Your favour of yeſterday, the 21ſt of Jummaud u' Sauni, 1197, has arrived. With regard to the converſations reſpecting the Governor General, you have directed that I ſhould communicate them to you fully and particularly. I have repeatedly declared, that whenever you command me to write and commit to paper the converſations which have paſſed on any ſubject, I am without remedy, and muſt write that which is matter of fact; notwithſtanding, in writing on ſuch matters, I am apprehenſive of your anger. The reflections and cenſures which you have repeatedly uttered againſt the Governor General, together with the particulars reſpecting his diſmiſſion, are well known to yourſelf. It muſt be in your remembrance, that no other perſon was preſent at theſe converſations, ſo as to leave room for ſuſpicions of falſe repreſentations by any one. I, who am a dependant on the Governor General, have for theſe five months paſt, repeatedly heard from you accounts of the Governor's diſmiſſion, and from the apprehenſions produced thereby, have paſt my days and nights like one half deprived of exiſtence; and the cenſures which you threw out againſt the Governor, during the converſations reſpecting his diſmiſſion, were ſuch as tended to increaſe my aſtoniſhment and confuſion; and my anxieties reſpecting my own ſituation were unremitting. At this juncture a letter has arrived from the Kaja Gobind Raum, with information of the Governor's being continued or confirmed by the Council of England (i. e. the Court of Proprietors) which happy intelligenee I conſider as the means of my future exiſtence. I am at all times obedient to your commands, and in every reſpect I neither have diſobeyed, nor do diſobey or object to them. To mention it is inconſiſtent with reſpect; but I never required a coulnameh from you; you, of your own accord, under the pretence of the Governor's diſmiſſion, and the approaching arrival of other Gentlemen from Europe, propoſed a bundabuſt and Coulnaumeh after a different form. Whenever you repeated to me the intelligence of the Governor's diſmiſſion, confounded and diſmayed, and apprehenſive from your temper, I was uſed to make no objection; my anſwers wore the appearance of acquieſcence, and I oppoſed ſilence and procraſtination to your injunctions reſpecting the coulnaumeh. As ſoon as you diſcovered my diſſimulation on this ground, you then drew out and delivered to me a copy of the coulnaumeh, and a copy of the plan of arrangement different from the former: Thoſe which you firſt propoſed to me, muſt

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must undoubtedly be in your remembrance. I am in the situation of a servant, and the apprehensions I entertain from your anger are great. It would be better that these matters should remain undisclosed; it is well; that which has actually past in conversation and in correspondence, without remedy, that I relate, notwithstanding I consider it as inconsistent with the duties of subordination.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khaun; written on the 23d of the month of Jummud û Sauni, A. H. 1197, or 26th of May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 7th June, 1783.

Usual introduction.

Meer Mahummud Hoossein Attau Khaun waits upon you with an account of the particulars wanting to the general plan. I request that you will give orders for the necessary papers to be delivered.

Concludes as usual.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khaun; written on the 24th of Jummaud û Sauni, A. H. 1197, or 27th of May, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 7th June, 1783.

Usual introduction.

Your letter of the 22d of the month Jummaud û Sauni, in reply to mine, concerning the slanderous representations of incendiaries, who have propagated, and continue to propagate, reports absolutely contradictory to truth, has arrived—to my utter astonishment. My surprize and amazement at the contents thereof, are beyond description!—That you should guide the pen of calumny, to write things which never once entered into my imagination, and relate such circumstances as these, of which I have no knowledge whatever. To reply at length to such particulars, which are totally void of foundation and existence, would be vain; except with respect to the circumstance of the coulnaumeh, which you say was first proposed by me.—True, I was the first proposer of this coulnaumeh, and my motive for it was this;—when I saw, at the expiration of seven months, that, owing to your procrastination, none of the affairs of the Surcor were brought to a conclusion, therefore, in order to promote a perfect reconciliation on your part, I proposed the coulnawmeh, purely for the purpose of carrying into execution the commands of the Governor General; that being united together, every possible means might be used by us jointly to give prosperity to the Nuvvaub's government, and ease and happiness to the people,

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ple, which are the Governor General's first objects. And at the time when I was thus endeavouring to satisfy your mind, and reconcile your heart, you, in return, and contrary to truth, by misinterpretations, fictions, and falsehoods, transmitted daily accusations and complaints against me to the Governor General.

I remember the answer which you gave to me when I proposed the coulnaumeh, which was—"That it had long "been the wish of your heart;" and calling me, with many praises and compliments on my understanding and generosity, your benefactor, you declared, "That your "life and fortune depended on my kindness." Notwithstanding which, such are the complaints and accusations, totally devoid of truth, which you have written and transmitted! By the blessing of God, such calumnies and gross falsehoods will not meet with credit any where: And notwithstanding this conduct on your part, I am ready from my heart and soul to carry into execution the general plan, agreeably to the commands of the Governor General, and the other officers of the two Surcors. I request that you will come to me to-morrow, as there are several matters of importance to be executed by us in conjunction with each other.

Concludes as usual.

From Hyder Beg Khaun to Mr. Bristow; written on the 24th of Jummaud û Sauni, or 27th of May, at Night.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 7th June, 1783.

Your favour arrived at twelve o'clock at night: In answer to what you have said concerning your declarations respecting the Governor General, I am a servant, and you are the ruler, nor is it in my power to make false representations. You have repeatedly, in the most particular and circumstantial manner, mentioned the Governor's dismission, and thrown out reflections against him; in this particular, I have not represented any thing contrary to the truth; all that you have said with respect to me at certain times, and which I have repeated to you, with fear for my life and honour, *that* also I well remember. You are the ruler of the present time, and I am a servant under authority; whatever you shall command, in the plenitude of your power, with respect thereto I am without remedy. I formerly represented to you, that in relating the matter of fact, I was under apprehensions from your anger.

From

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From Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Khaun, written on the 3d of the month Rujjub, A. H. 1197, or 4th of June, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, June 17th, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

Agreeably to your advice, I wrote to the Nuvvaub Vizier of the Empire. A copy of the ſhoccah which has arrived from his Highneſs, in reply, comes incloſed. Before the diſpatach of my arzee to his Highneſs, I repeatedly heard from you, that the houſe of the Nuvvaub Shau Jung had been fixed upon, with his Highneſs's conſent, for the Foujdaree Adaulut, and that nothing remained but to clear it of the property lodged therein: Now the caſe appears to be different.

That which was determined with reſpect to Mukhoo Khaun, was determined in your preſence, and with your approbation; no objections with reſpect to propriety or impropriety, were then made.

It is manifeſt and apparent, that by your regulations the eſtabliſhment of the Adaulut and the protection of the city have not been effected; but on the contrary, that the evils appear to be daily encreaſing. Therefore, from an attention to the general tranquillity, to my own ſafety, and the ſafety of my dependants, I cannot neglect the means neceſſary for their ſecurity, as it appears, from the contents of his Highneſs's ſhoccah, that you neglect to exert yourſelf in the due management of theſe affairs, on which the ſafety of both life and property depends: I therefore am not anſwerable for the good or bad conſequences thereof. I conſider prolixity as productive of unneceſſary trouble to us both; and from a ſuppoſition that perhaps the contents of the Governor General's letter (which I formerly incloſed to you in one from myſelf) may be forgotten, therefore I again incloſe you the copy of a paragraph worthy of conſideration, from the letter of the Governor General.

Concludes as uſual.

From the Nuvvaub Vizier to Mr. Briſtow.

Your letter informing me that the year is expired, and the bundobuſt for the new year about to be ſettled; therefore propoſing that I ſhould return to Lucknow, and perſonally put in train the affairs of the ſucceeding year, has arrived, has diſcloſed its contents, and given me ſatisfaction by the information of your welfare.

I underſtand that you are cauſing the houſe of the late Nuvvaub Shau Jung to be cleared out for the Adaulut, and that you have impriſoned Mukhou Khaun, the Cutwal of the

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the city, on account of an attack made by banditti on the Dookhaun of Juvvauir Mull. It is matter of great astonishment to me, that my people should consider your orders as equivalent to mine, and that you, at the instigation of self-interested people, should be induced to entertain such intentions, which appear highly inconsistent with the friendship due from you. I write to you, therefore, to put a stop to the proceedings respecting the house of the Nuvvaub Shau Jung, and to make use of the place allotted by me for the Adaulut, and to set Mukhou Khaun at liberty; since Mukhou Khaun has not that number of troops and people with him as can enable him to guard and cover the city, which is of great length and extent, from robberies and the assaults of banditti; it is therefore requisite that, from regard to the friendship between us, and to justice, you set him at liberty.

With respect to what you have written concerning my return to Lucknow, in order to put the affairs of the Surcar in train, the assignment of the tunkaw of the English Surcor is, by God's favour, perfect and complete, nor is there any defect in it; and for the management of all the affairs of my country and government, Hyder Beg Khaun has full authority from me, and is constantly employed in the management of those affairs. In fact, for some short time I shall not return; when my excursion is finished, and a bridge prepared, which will be shortly, I shall cross over my troops, and shall return, taking the amusement of the chace in my way.

Concludes as usual.

Extract from a Letter to Hyder Beg Khaun from the Governor General; written on the 20th October, 1782, and enclosed to Mr. Bristow.

I write this thus plainly, from two motives; the first is, to shew how thin the veil is by which you attempt to cover this policy; and of course to convince you, that I shall receive and construe every similar declaration, however made to me from the Nuvvaub, and every letter written in his name, tending to destroy or lessen the friendship subsisting between us, as your declaration, as your letter: the second is, that as I do not so much ascribe these artifices to you, as to the evil councils and encouragements which you have lately received from other persons, whose names I need not mention, you may see and know on what terms you may expect hereafter to retain that friendship and support which I have hitherto given you. For the rest I refer you to Mr. Bristow, to whom, both verbally and in writing, I have communicated every tittle of my

my sentiments, intentions, and expectations upon this subject.

From Hyder Beg Khaun to Mr. Bristow; written on the 3d of the Month Rujjub, A. H. 1197, or 4th of June, 1783.

Your favour has arrived—I am a servant—what can I presume to say in reply? such is the degree of consideration in which I stand with you, that I am condemned for not performing impossibilities. In the spirit of obedience and submission to your commands, I have from an apprehension for my honour, done many things without the knowledge, and contrary to the pleasure of his Highness, and am day and night employed in fulfilling your pleasure. Notwithstanding which, the only praises I have heard from you have been reproaches: yet have I never been deficient in fulfilling your every command on every subject: and I am still, with folded arms, ready to receive them. When I look back with the minutest attention into my past conduct, I cannot discover my crimes; to the fatality of the times it must be imputed, that after six years service exerted in the affairs of the Company's Surcor, with credit and applause, I am now condemned by you without cause, and on the most trifling grounds.

You spoke to me repeatedly respecting the Bundobust for the new year, notwithstanding the present year is not near expired. In consequence of your importunities I represented to you that his Highness was the master and prince of the country, and that you must call him back to Lucknow. Agreeably to your desire his Highness made two marches towards this place, and is about to arrive. I have sent to you the Shoccah which came to your address.

His Highness allotted the building in which the Dewannee Cutchary, and others, were formerly held, for the Cutchary of Adaulut, and the Mouluvvee Mahummed Mubbeen approved of the place—you were pleased to forbid it; the cause of your forbidding it I cannot presume to mention. You were pleased to require the Dewaun Khauneh of the Nuvvaub Shau Jung: his Highness constantly replied, that he had alloted a place, and that the Cutchary might be held there. As soon as his Highness had taken leave of you, and proceeded on his hunting excursion, when you peremptorily ordered the Dewaun Khaneh of the Nuvvaub Shau Jung, I wrote an erzee on the subject to his Highness, who wrote to me in reply, that property belonging to him was contained therein, and that I should desire you to let the matter be postponed until his return; to which you consented. On the day of

of examination respecting the robbery, you angrily directed that the Dewaun Khaneh of the Nuvvaub Shau Jung should be cleared for the purpose of holding the Adaulut Cutchary therein that very day; adding, that you would listen to no excuses whatever. I represented that the property contained therein belonged to his Highness. You replied, "By my orders remove it." One of your Chobedars attend me. I sent the message to his Highness's Khaunsaumaun agreeably to your commands, and your Chobedar also communicated your orders. After this I represented to you that it was not customary to remove the property of the poorest person from his habitation, without the consent of the owner. His Highness was offended with me, demanding to know why I presumed to remove his property. And these are the angry declarations which I receive from you, "That the objections are not his "Highness's, but mine." His Highness, on the other hand, reprehends me, and demands to know why I remove his property; adding, that he had appointed a place for the Cutchary, and that the Adaulut Cutchary might be held there. Do me the justice to reflect, so circumstanced, what is it in my power to do? by both parties I am reproved and reprehended, without the existence of a cause. The Adaulut Cutchary *is* the Adaulut Cutchary every where. With respect to what you say, concerning Mukhou Khaun—on the day the Banditti attacked the house of the merchant, Mukhou Khaun, and the brother of the Mouluvva, and the Cutwaul, on the part of the Mouluvva, were in confinement before I waited upon you. On my arrival I was called to account in the language of the day of judgment. You repeatedly said that the robbery was committed with the connivance of Mukhou Khaun, and that you would put him to death: I, as corresponding with obedience and submission, had not the power to make any reply, but such as implied belief and acknowledgement.

You are pleased to say, that it is manifest and apparent that by my regulations the establishment of the Adaulut, and the security of the city, have not been effected. The just and fair state of the case is this:—by much importunity, before your arrival, I caused the Moulluvvee Mahummud Mubbeen Khaun to be appointed Daurogeh of Adaulut; which circumstance the Mouluvvee himself has repeatedly declared to you. According to the modes and forms of Adaulut agreeably to the institutions of us Mahummadans, as established in the Governments of the Princes and Ameers of Hindostan from the beginning of the world, the Daurogeh of Adaulut shall in all causes brought before him decide thereon, and pass judgment agreeably

agreeably to the Shurreh; in such manner is the Moulurvee impowered to act. Before your arrival he decided on the causes brought before him, nor has judgment been suspended or delayed in any cause decided by him, by undue influence, or from any motive whatever. The chastisement of thefts and robberies, and the protection of the country and the city, are duties appertaining to the Prince of the country; nor, according to the customs and practices of us Mahummudans, has the Daurogeh of Adaulut any connection therewith. Such events as robberies and assaults made by Banditti, are neither new nor uncommon; such accidents have occasionally happened in all ages, and in every part of this empire. In like manner, the necessary remedies have been applied by the Princes thereof. Thus, when the late Nuvvaub Shuja u' Dowlah, with a numerous army, and a brigade of the English forces, was encamped at Shahabad, an attack was made on the bankers of the Bazar, several of the Shroffs and people of the camp were killed and wounded. In the cantonments of the brigade at Cawnpore two similar attacks were made by Boondalekhund Banditti, from the other side of the Jumna, and several people were wounded. Such accidents as these have happened in other places, both far and near, notwithstanding the rulers thereof were, by God's favour, competent and active in the conduct of governmental affairs. The relation of similar instances would be endless, nor are such circumstances to be imputed to the inattention of Government; whenever such accidents have happened Princes have detached troops to chastise the offenders. In this empire of Hindostan the office of Daurogeh of Adaulut has not been established for the apprehending and bringing to punishment malefactors: here also the necessary precautions have at all times been taken. Thus, during the disturbance at Benares, his Highness and we, the Ministers, were at Chunar; the tranquillity of the city was then secured by the Peadas of the Sehbundee, under the direction of Raja Tikait Roy; and this very Mukhoo Khaun was at the time present here, or in office, yet, through the favour of God, no accident whatever happened on that occasion. I have now stationed guards round the city, and am using my endeavours to repair the mischief which has happened. I have already informed you respecting the implements of robbery taken from the Banditti Zemindars, and delivered up, and I have dispatched people to chastize those villages which have been pointed out as the receptacles of theft and robbery. I have written to the Aumils to the same effect. The Zemindars of the villages, from the apprehension of punishment, have absconded, and secreted themselves; and the people sent by me

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me are lying in wait to apprehend them. In a few days the result of the measures taken in consequence of the late robbery shall be made known to you.

This accident is imputed to my negligence and inattention: I am a servant, and am deemed every way culpable by you; in other words, I am condemned for not performing impossibilities. Whatever may be your pleasure, you will act agreeably thereto, no one has the power to object; for the truth is, that you are the ruler, and his Highness and we, the Ministers, are subject to your authority. Your intentions in the affair of the Adaulut are evident, and under this pretence you have fixed blame upon me. Your determination is to effect the object of your intentions. You are the ruler and master, and will act, in the fullness of your power, as you may think proper. The pleasure of his Highness is, that the business of the Adaulut shall be under the management of the Mouluvvee Mahummud Mubbeen, and that all matters of litigation shall be decided agreeably to the Shurreh. Your secret determination is of a different nature. Such being the case, why do you throw blame upon us? Act agreeably to your pleasure; the subjects of authority have no resource but submission and acquiescence. Respecting your suspicions, that the objections are not his Highness's, but mine, his Highness is at hand, be pleased to require from him an explanation upon oath; and it will then be known whether the objections are mine, or whether they are his Highness's objections.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khaun; written on the 4th of the Month of Rujjub, A. H. 1197, or 5th of June, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, June 17th, 1783.

Usual introduction.

Your letter, in reply to mine, relating to the Adaulut, &c. has arrived; I am made acquainted with the contents thereof. You write that, corresponding to obedience and submission, and under apprehensions for your honour, you have done many things by my directions, without the knowledge, and contrary to the pleasure of his Highness, and that you are day and night employed in fulfilling my pleasure. My friend, you have repeatedly and continually wrote to me, magnified declarations of your obedience, but I have not hitherto discovered any the least sign of its existence; and respecting the transacting affairs without the knowledge, and contrary to the pleasure of his Highness, I have constantly forbidden, and do forbid you to do it. Thus when I obtained knowledge of your accustomed practice

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practice to apply the ſeal to Perwaunehs without his Highneſs's knowledge, I forbid it in the ſtrongeſt terms, as a thing which would be productive of much miſchief to you. As far as the duties of friendſhip extended, I have with the greateſt ſincerity urged to you the bad conſequences of it; but ſince that advice has made no impreſſion upon you, and that you are conſtantly bringing this circumſtance forward, you will take the conſequences upon yourſelf. I have ſaid, that if any urgent buſineſs ſhould occur, ſuch as I could not allow to be poſtponed or ſuſpended, that in ſuch caſe I would carry it into execution by my own authority; but hitherto it has never come to paſs that I have exerciſed that authority; and by God's favour, the friendſhip between his Highneſs and the Governor General is ſo firmly eſtabliſhed and cemented, that in the end every thing will be ſettled and concluded agreeably to the pleaſure of both. If you have done many things in this way, the act is yours—I have nothing to do with it.

Reſpecting the frequency of robberies, which you ſay have happened at all periods: true—examples of robberies are to be met with from the earlieſt times; effectually to prevent and eradicate ſuch evils is impoſſible, notwithſtanding, except by the eſtabliſhment of the Foujdaree Adaulut. It was my intention to engage in the fruitleſs labour of ſuch a long and tedious correſpondence. From neceſſity I have briefly written thus much.

Concludes as uſual.

From Hyder Beg Khaun to Mr. Briſtow; written on the 4th of Rujjub A. H. 1197, or 5th June, 1783.

Copy: Received at Calcutta, 17th June, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

Your favour has arrived;—you are the ruler;—all your commands, on all occaſions, I have obeyed. Why do you blend or confound your preceding and ſubſequent orders together? as long as you continue to demand of me "why I introduced the name of his Highneſs?" adding, "that which I direct, you muſt perform, and not allow "the execution thereof to depend on his Highneſs's "knowledge, or want of knowledge reſpecting it, other-"wiſe it will not be well for you—" I agreeably to your orders did as you directed. From various cauſes, which to relate would be inconſiſtent with reſpect, you ſay, that meaſures muſt not be carried into execution without his Highneſs's knowledge and approbation; I act accordingly: and on this ground alſo, reſpecting ſuch matters which

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you direct to be done, and which his Highness thinks proper to disapprove of, and object to, you are pleased to express your resentment and anger against me; asserting, that these objections are not his Highness's, but mine; this being the case, in justice reflect on these your own commands. You have said, that as soon as you was informed of my accustomed practice, you forbid it, directing that measures should not be executed without the approbation of his Highness: be pleased to consider the nature of your own commands; and whether what has been done appertained to me, or depended on your orders; and consequently, whether the accustomed practice was mine or yours: when you have commanded any thing to be done with peremptoriness and passion, in obedience to you I have done it; whatever orders have been given at different times, the circumstances of those times are separate, or distinct from each other. What advantage could follow to me, in this business, that I should do such things without the knowledge, and contrary to the pleasure, of his Highness?

It is undoubted that the Governor General has, and will continue to have, a great regard and friendship for his Highness. His Highness also is devoted to the Governor's pleasure, nor hesitates in any manner whatever to fulfil it.

The two following letters from Sir John Cumming having been received and circulated, are also recorded.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to inform your Honourable Board, that the depredations committed by the Sieks in his Excellency's dominions, and the apprehensions of still greater damage, have rendered it unavoidably necessary to detach two regiments, with a proportion of artillery, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, towards Anopsheer. The copies of the correspondence between the Resident and me, which accompany this letter, make it unnecessary to enter into particulars, as it would be only a repetition of circumstances therein contained. I am of opinion that the march of this detachment will effectually leave the Vizier's districts; should it prove otherwise, I propose marching with two more regiments to some convenient place on the Jumna, opposite Anopsheer, where the smallness of the distance will render a junction easy, and to be effected, if requisite, in a few hours. In the measures I have adopted, I have not lost sight of the caution so strongly enjoined by your Honourable Board against detaching; but I think it, on the present occasion, indispensably

penſably requiſite, both for the ſecurity of the Vizier's territories, and to convince the native powers of our readineſs on all occaſions to ſupport him againſt his enemies, whether foreign or domeſtic.

I hope the opinions I have given to the Vizier and reſident, and the ſteps I have taken, will meet with the approbation of your Honourable Board, and I wiſh much for the honour of having your ſentiments made known to me on this occaſion.

Futty Ghur, I have the honour to be, &c.
16th March, 1783. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING.

Copy of a Letter from the Reſident to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Sir,

The incloſed Perſian paper is an arzee from the Naib of Com Gunge to Almas Ali Khan, containing intelligence in many parts. The inconſiderable force which has reſiſted the Seiks may juſtly flatter us with hopes that the enemy cannot be very formidable. The diſſentions among the Chiefs at Delhi have furniſhed an opportunity to the Seiks to advance in larger bodies to the Vizier's frontiers than they have hitherto been accuſtomed to do; and from every intelligence I can obtain, we may reaſonably expect they will continue their attempts upon his Excelleney's dominions. As Khoja Aineedin did, on the firſt appearance of the enemy, repreſent that he had entertained additional troops, he was immediately directed to diſmiſs them, and has not been allowed for their ſubſiſtence; the Miniſter has recommended a regiment to be ſtationed at ſuch gauts as will, by this arrangement, be left unguarded. He propoſes that the troops now ſtationed at them may be employed in the collections. Before I adviſe the Vizier on the ſubject, I take the liberty to apprize you of the requeſt, that you may furniſh me with your opinion.

I beg leave to obſerve, that the Honourable Governor General and Council highly diſapprove of detachments, unleſs upon the moſt emergent occaſions, I have cautiouſly avoided recommending them. It appears, however very likely, that a detachment of the Honourable Company's troops will be neceſſary in Rohilcund. In ſuch caſe, agreeable to my inſtructions, it is my duty to apply to the commanding officer at Chunar Ghur, to aſſiſt the Vizier with a reinforcement to join the troops under your command, that you may always remain with a reſpectable collected force. The Honourable Board are the more anxious on this head, as the ſituation of Almas Ali Khan renders it proper to awe his conduct;

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and I could wish you would specify the detachment you could spare for the service of Rohilcund. The Seiks have been repulsed by such inconsiderable bodies of the Vizier's troops, that a regiment is the greatest force ever mentioned to me, either by the Vizier, the Minister, or Khojah Ainuddeen, as necessary.

Almas Ali Khan is now at Lucknow: He has regularly paid the Company's assignments; but as his power will be reduced after the collections may be completed, I think it my duty to apprize you of this circumstance, in order to explain the expediency of keeping a respectable body of troops under your command at your present station, in preference to your marching to Rohilcund, according to your former proposition; it being well situated to prevent his executing any scheme prejudicial to the Vizier's interests.

I request you will inform me what number of cavalry you may deem requisite to act with the officers now stationed with the Sezawel of Ferruckabad, in case at any future period the Seiks should actually enter the neighbouring parts of the country. I request your opinion also, on the station a detachment, if you deem any necessary, should occupy on the frontiers of the province of Etajah or Furuckabad, there to remain until such time as all apprehensions of the Seiks may subside: Almas Alli Khan has appointed out some post between Anopsher and Jellaly, because it would cover his districts.

I have entered into a detail of these circumstances, that you may be enabled to act upon emergencies; and I shall heartily unite with you in every measure that appears necessary for the preservation of the peace of the Vizier's dominions. I omitted to inform you, that Quabita Khan had ceded the fort of Suhertal to the Seiks, with a view, as is suspected, of favouring their operations against his Excellency's frontiers, as also to relieve his own country from their depredations. I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have communicated the intelligence received respecting the Seiks to Colonel Morgan.

I am directed by his Excellency the Vizier to convey to you his approbation of the step you took in strengthening the detachment with the Sezawel of Ferruckabad.

You will greatly oblige me by observing secrecy in all matters relative to Almas Ali Khan.

Lucknow, I am, &c.
5th March, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

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Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to John Briſtow, Eſquire, Reſident, &c. &c.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 5th inſtant, with ſome papers of intelligence incloſed; by my own intelligence I find that there are many Seiks diſperſed about the country in ſeparate bodies, but though they are formidable to the natives they cannot be ſo to our troops. It is probable that as Kojah Ainuddeen Khan had entertained a body of troops to oppoſe them, for which he received no allowance, his repreſentation may be much exaggerated, with a view to obtaining ſome allowance or abatement in revenue. It is, however, neceſſary for the preſervation of the Vizier's dominions, and the honour of our own arms, that a ſtop ſhould be put to the predatory incurſions of the Seiks. I am ready therefore to take any ſteps which may be agreeable to the Vizier.

You inform me that the Miniſter has propoſed ſtationing a regiment at the gauts. I ſuppoſe he meants thoſe at preſent occupied by Cojah Ainuddin's troops, who are to be withdrawn and employed in the collections; you mention alſo that the Governor General and Council highly diſapprove of detaching, for which reaſon you cautiouſly avoid recommending it. I apprehend the intention of the Board is that a force ſhould be always collected in readineſs to oppoſe the ſudden attempt of the enemy, who might endeavour to diſturb the upper provinces, and alſo to preſerve the diſcipline of the troops; at the ſame time they undoubtedly mean to aſſiſt the Vizier in the internal government of his dominions, when it does not claſh with more important views. I gave it you as my opinion, both in converſation and by letter, that it would be always neceſſary to have at leaſt three regiments collected at this ſtation; a force which I think equal to any that can ſuddenly appear on the frontiers.

I now beg leave to make two propoſals, which I requeſt you will ſubmit to the Vizier; the one is, that a ſingle regiment ſhould be ſtationed ſome where near Ram Gaut, on the eaſt ſide of the Ganges; I mention particularly the eaſt ſide, becauſe I think it dangerous to truſt ſo ſmall a force on the other ſide, where it would be expoſed to the attacks of the Seiks; ſhould they aſſemble in a large force, the rapidity of their motions would put it out of my power to afford timely relief, at ſo great a diſtance.

The other propoſal is, that two regiments ſhould be detached under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon, and ſtationed a few coſs above or below Anopſheer, on the weſtern ſide of the Ganges; I ſhould have no ob-

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jection to trusting two regiments on the western side, because I think them a force equal to the largest body of cavalry the Seiks could bring, until a reinforcement could be sent from this station.

As I am sensible the Vizier will pay the utmost deference to the advice you give him, I wish you to consider these proposals with attention. Whatever may be the Vizier's determination, I shall instantly obey his orders, which I request may be express and positive.

Should the latter proposal be adopted, and it still continue necessary to assist the Sezawil of Ferruckabad, I intend to relieve the 11th regiment, which being a very good one, shall make part of the detachment. Should it happen, though I think it scarcely possible, that two regiments prove unequal to the service, I shall hold myself, with two other regiments, in readiness to march at a moment's notice, upon the first intimation from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson. In such event I should be under the necessity of withdrawing the battalion from the Sezawil, that I might be enabled to leave a regiment here; and it must readily occur to you that under such circumstances no time ought to be lost. The delay which must attend giving notice to you and the Vizier might be productive of fatal consequences. This is an event which, though improbable, may happen; I mention it now that you may have time to consider and judge of it.

You observe that a regiment is the greatest force mentioned to you as necessary, either by the Vizier, the Minister, or Khaja Ainuddon; should one regiment only be detached, I shall have four remaining, including that with the Sezawil. If two are detached, I shall have three, a force in my opinion sufficient to prevent any bad consequences from the resentment of Elmas.

You request my opinion with respect to the number of cavalry requisite to be employed with the detachment now assisting the Sezawals. If the two regiments, as proposed, march towards Anopsheer, I would recommend their being joined by whatever cavalry you may be able to obtain from the Vizier. I cannot fix any particular number. I can only observe that the more cavalry are employed on the service, the more effectually will the peace of the country be secured: You are the best judge of what number you can obtain. The necessity of cavalry is so strikingly obvious, that it is needless to state it. If any be sent, I request they may be the best the Vizier has, and not the common Indostan horse, which instead of protecting would plunder the country.

The opinion I have given with respect to stationing a detachment near Anopsheer, coincides with that of Elmas.

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A detachment ſtationed in that vicinity, at the ſame time that it protects Rohilcund, will protect Elmas's diſtricts alſo: I repeat the opinion I have formerly given, that the effect of troops will always be felt 30 or 40 coſs below their ſtation, but not far above it.

You mention that Zebita Khan has ceded to the Seiks the fort of Sukertal, with a view to favour their operations againſt the Vizier's dominions, and to relieve his own country from their depredations. Sukertal, I underſtand, is not a fort, but was formerly an intrenched camp of the Rohillas, and of no great ſtrength: It is about 18 coſs diſtant from Darannugger.

I am inclined to think the ceſſion of little importance.

In conſequence of your late addreſs to the Board, they have been pleaſed to prohibit my correſpondence with the officers of Government. I ſtand utterly deprived of the means of information, except what I obtain through common Hircarrahs, on whoſe reports I can place little dependance. It reſts with you to furniſh me with intelligence, ſince I can obtain it through no other channel.

I am, &c.

March 9th, 1783. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
Futty Ghur. Col.

Copy of a Letter from the Reſident at the Vizier's Court to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Sir,

I had the honour to addreſs you on the 5th inſtant, on the ſubject of the operations of the Seiks, requeſting your opinion on a plan propoſed by the Miniſter for ſtationing troops at ſuch gauts as may be unguarded. Elmas Ali Khan having ſince received letters from his Naibs at Cas Gunge, copies of which I encloſe for your information, I loſt no time in ſoliciting the Vizier's inſtructions for your immediately making ſuch detachments from your corps as you may judge neceſſary for covering the frontier, though I entertain little doubt but that the apprehenſions expreſſed in theſe letters have greatly exaggerated the force of the enemy, as well as the miſchief done to the country.

I take the liberty alſo to incloſe you an extract of a letter, dated the 2d inſtant, from Major Browne at Agra on the ſame ſubject.

I have, &c.

10th March, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

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Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 10th instant, with the inclosures. The Persian papers of intelligence have been translated, from which it appears that the Seiks have destroyed several villages. I apprehend, however, they are not very considerable in value and importance.

The opinion I gave you in my last letter is applicable to the present case. If two regiments, with a body of the Vizier's horse, are stationed at or near to Anopsheir, the Seiks would not venture in a large body to come lower down in the Dooab: Though they might escape the pursuit of our infantry, they would not be able to carry off any great booty, particularly grain and cattle, which are the principal things they can lay hold of. The breadth of the Dooab at Anopshier does not exceed 20 coss: But I would not have you and the Vizier think that it will be in the power of infantry alone to totally prevent small parties of the enemy's horse from plundering and destroying the villages. Their motions are extremely rapid, and I have been informed that when they plundered Soorun, they marched near 30 coss in one night.

I am, &c.

Futty Ghur, (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
12th March. Col.

Copy of a Letter from the Resident at the Vizier's Court to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 9th instant. I beg leave to inform you that there are one thousand and twenty-two cavalry, and four battalions of sepoys, or two thousand and eighty-seven infantry, stationed at the gauts about Darangger.

This force has hitherto proved equal to repelling the attacks of the Seiks; and Khoja Ainuddeen Khan told me, upon the taking leave a few days since, without my putting the question to him, that he deemed the troops under his command equal to any service that was likely to occur. This obviates the Minister's plea, stated to you in my letter of the 5th instant, that a reinforcement would be necessary in consequence of the reductions which had been made of his troops. If the aid of the detachment under your command should be required in any part of Rohilcund, it will probably occur in the countries held by Merza Mahomed Cazym.

I shall

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I ſhall continue to tranſmit to you every information that may come to my knowledge; but in order to prevent delay, I have adviſed his Excellency to direct his Aumils Khojah Ainuddeen, Mirza Mahomed Cazym, Almaſs Ali Khan, and Mahomed Beg, to convey to Colonel Morgan and you the earlieſt intelligence of the motions of the Seiks. The encloſed Perſian paper (No. 5) is a copy of his Excellency's orders on this ſubject.

I have alſo the pleaſure to incloſe (No. 2) Extracts of papers of news tranſmitted to me by Colonel Morgan, which correſpond with thoſe I have received. No. 3 and 4 are a letter, with the Perſian paper from Major Browne, mentioned to be incloſed in it.

I ſhall, agreeably to your advice, endeavour as ſoon as poſſible to obtain cavalry from the Vizier to act with the troops under your command.

I have ſubmitted your propoſals to his Excellency's conſideration. He approves your detaching Lieut. Col. Knudſon, with two regiments of ſepoys, and four ſix pounders, to take poſt a few coſs either above or below Anopſheer, on the weſtern ſide of the Ganges, as may be moſt convenient to protect Rohilcund. You have now full information of every fact before you; and the Vizier repoſes entire confidence in your judgment in theſe matters, and therefore leaves it at your diſcretion to order the detachment to march without further delay, or elſe altogether to ſtop it. In forming your determination, his Excellency requeſts you will conſider the advantage to his dominions by the appearance of a reſpectable body of troops ſtationed on the frontiers, which will quiet the minds of his ſubjects, and inſure the collections.

The Honourable Board's orders are ſo very peremptory againſt detachments, except in emergencies, that you will determine if the preſent ſervice falls under that deſcription —in my opinion it does; and as you inform me the ſeparation of the troops upon the propoſed plan can be made with ſecurity, I ſhould imagine the reaſons for the meaſure are ſtronger than thoſe againſt it.

The detachment will probably not be required after the ſetting-in of the periodical rains.

Lucknow, I have, &c.

14 March, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,

Reſidt. at the Vizier's Court.

Tranſlation

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Translation of the Copy of an Arzee from Azimoldeen Khan, and Shick Kheramut Ulla, addressed to Elmas Ali Khan, wrote the 25th of Rebailawel of the present Year of the Kegera.

The day before yesterday we wrote you an account of the battle we had with the Sicks, and the victory which, by God's grace, we gained over them. The letter was sent by an Hircarrah, and we hope you have received it. The Sicks marched yesterday from Bedorea to Kerseri, which is on the river's side, and about 4 coss from Cass Gunge. We shall see what is the pleasure of God. We are, by the favour of God, and under the auspices of your Excellency, determined and ready; should they return, we shall behave like good servants. Fearing that you would think we exaggerated, we wrote you in a former arzee that there were 25,000 of the enemy's horse; but after examination, and seeing with our own eyes, we are assured that there are 40,000 and upwards. The country is defenceless, and quite a desart; particularly Soorun Boodreah, Beloya Kegeri, and Cass Gunge, city and village are the same. God knows, there is not the smallest trace of goods or cattle. It is unknown whether the Rebe crop be planted or not. In this deplorable state, and the total loss of every thing, we know not what will be the event. We hope you will represent the contents of our arzee to the Vizier and the English gentlemen. The collections of this country are at an end, and we cannot prevent the mischief. It will be difficult even to retain possession of the country. If such be the situation of things, God is our guardian. We thought it right to represent every thing is in the utmost confusion. Cass Gunge, which was saved, by the grace of God, and under your auspices, by a battle, of which we presume you have had intelligence through other channels besides our arzee, is the only place which remains unplundered. We shall not be in the smallest degree remiss in our exertions to defend it in future. We are ready to sacrifice our lives, but, by the blessing of God, we will not lose our reputation. To whom should we apply for chastisement on the enemy, but to God, and your servants? The day we fought the battle the Rajah was at Ectah; we wrote him, but as he was under the necessity of going to Shikokabad, he wrote us that he was obliged to go thither, and he proceeded accordingly. We could obtain no assistance from him. He wrote us too, that it was impossible, with our own force, without assistance from Government, to repulse the enemy; and that those whom he wished to send to our aid, on account of the scarcity of provisions, had refused to march; he therefore recommended to us to do the

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the best we could. Wonderful are the times, and strange is the condition of this country, such as God has inflicted on no other! we thought it requisite to represent. We rely on the assistance of God, and your happy influence. We shall not be wanting in our duty. Hereafter what God pleases will come to pass.—What should we represent more?

The brother of Jesa Sing, Chief of the Sicks, was killed at the battle of Cass Gunge, by a ball he received as he was sitting on his elephant.

A true translation.

(Signed) RALPH BROOME,
Persian Interpreter.

Translation of the Copy of an Arzee from Shick Azimold in Khan and Kheramut Ulla, to Elmas Ali Khan, under Date the 29th of Rebeeilawel of the present Year of the Khegeri.

We have wrote you repeatedly, of the Sicks plundering Bederia and Soorun on the 22d of this month, and the battle we fought with them, and the victory we gained over them on the 23d at Cass Gunge, and of Jeshern, one of their Sirdars, being killed on his elephant. We informed you also of their return to Sooran and Bederea, and their burning and destroying the remainder of the houses; of their marching the 24th from Soorun to Khersera, a Talucca of Bederea; of their destroying a Talucca of Jetepore, and another of Selimpore; and all the villages belonging to the Pergunnah of Bederee, Soorun, Belayah, Kergenre, and of their destroying, on the 25th instant, Renepore and other places belonging to Bederee, and the adjacent villages. From all these places they have carried away every thing, except the cows, which it is not their custom to take; of bullocks and buffaloes alone, besides other goods and stock, they have taken at least 30 thousand heads. There is no trace of the crops. An immense number of the inhabitants have been killed. A thousand of our people are taken prisoners, some of them have been severely flogged; and from others money has been extorted; those who paid the sums fixed are released, and others detained prisoners. The enemy are now at Mew, a place about 15 coss from Cass Gunge, and 12 from Bedereeh. Five thousand of their horses attend 8,000 bullocks with Benjaries, and they have settled a price of 2 rupees on a bullock load of grain. They dig up the earth in quest of corn, &c. wherever they come, and deliver what they find to the Benjaries, who carry it towards their own places of residence westward. They are at Mew, and we shall see what is the pleasure of God.

Whatever

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Whatever may be the intention of the Vizier and the English gentlemen, it is neceſſary to tell them, that till there be a ſtrong detachment of horſe and foot, with a complete artillery, kept here always in readineſs to oppoſe the enemy, the country will never be cultivated, nor even remain in our poſſeſſion. It is their cuſtom to continue deſtroying a place, till the natives, tired out, at length ſubmit to receive them as owners of the ſoil. We have ſtated the particulars as they really are; ſhould you think that we exaggerate, from intereſted motives, ſend your Hircarrahs with directions to enquire into the truth of it, and to ſee the ſtate of the country with their own eyes. It is at preſent totally uncultivated, nor will any perſon engage in it. Sehundra and Morara are the only places inhabited; the enemy has not been there yet, but they give out that they intend to go thither. The inhabitants are already flying. We hold it incumbent on us to repreſent thoſe things to you, that we, having your orders, may act accordingly. The confuſion has cauſed a total ſtop to watering the grain. Our diſtreſs is great, and we have nobody but God to relieve us from the evil; your ſervants are ready to oppoſe them, as they are in gratitude bound to do; but without a ſtrong body kept in conſtant readineſs, it will be impoſſible to repel the enemy. It is neceſſary that ſuch orders ſhould be ſoon given. Bhundun Khan, and the other nephews of Cader Daoud Khan, who had left Shiohabed with a deſign of going to Foolgaum, their own country, hearing of the battle we had fought with the Sicks, laid aſide their intention, and returned with 20 horſes; and Sheik Aſgur Ali Beg alone came from Shoeabad, and arrived the ſame day (the 26th) about nine o'clock in the evening, at Caſs Gunge, and are now here. Although, by the bleſſing of God, and under your auſpices, we obtained a victory without any body's aſſiſtance, yet the coming of Bundun Khan and Aſgur Ali, in the manner they did, was an act of bravery. We therefore repreſent it, in hopes that you will acknowledge their ſervices, by honouring them with a letter on the ſubject.

There is not a mark remaining where the grain was planted, to diſtinguiſh where it was. The little that remains, in here and there a ſpot, is left unwatered, and in ſpite of all our endeavours muſt remain ſo. The inhabitants have deſerted their homes, and croſſed the Ganges:—They ſay, "We have no cattle left, nor grain to ſupport "ourſelves; what can we do, or whence can we raiſe the "rents due to Government?" We beſeech you not to look on this repreſentation as the effect of deſign and ſelf-intereſt, but to repreſent it fully to the Vizier.

In

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In the two foregoing arzees, all the depredations committed by the Sicks are recapitulated, which renders a translation of some others unnecessary.

(Signed) RALPH BROOME,
Persian Translator.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 14th instant, with the several enclosed papers.

As it seems to be the desire of the Vizier, and conformable to your opinion also, that a detachment should march to the frontiers, I shall immediately detach Lieutenant Colonel Knudson with two regiments of sepoys, with instructions to take up some convenient post within a few coss of Anopsheer; I make no doubt but this measure will effectually secure the Vizier's frontier; but should the Sicks attempt to come lower down in the Dooab, I propose marching with two regiments more, and encamping on the banks of the Jumna, nearly opposite to Anopsheer. In this event it will be necessary to leave one regiment at Futty Ghur for the protection of this part of the country, and to guard the stores, hospital, &c. &c. And unless a regiment be sent hither from Chunar Ghur, or some other station, the recall of the detachment now with the Sezawil of Furruckabad will be unavoidable. The artillery we have is barely proportionable to the detachment, so that, should another regiment be ordered hither, it must be accompanied with its proportion of guns.

I shall write to the officer on command with the Sezawil, not to exceed the distance of twenty coss from this station, lest his detachment might suffer, before it would be in my power to assist them. I request you will signify this to the Sezawil to prevent any misunderstanding between him and the officer commanding. As the Honourable Board has expressly commanded me to have a requisition in writing for any service I am to perform, I request you will suggest to his Excellency the necessity of sending it to me as soon as possible. I shall not, however, delay the march of the troops on that account, lest any injury should be done to the country in the mean time.

You mention that the detachment will probably be required not longer than the commencement of the periodical rains. The Sicks, I am informed, usually return to their homes in May, or in the beginning of June.

Whatever cavalry you may be able to obtain from the Vizier, I request they may be ordered to join the detachment under

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under Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon as ſoon as poſſible. If much delay take place the ſeaſon for their acting will be over. I need not remind you, that their Sardars, or Commanders, ſhould be directed to obey the orders they may receive from me.

I beg leave to obſerve, that it will be impoſſible to make any more detachments from the force under my command until they return, or until I am reinforced from ſome other ſtation. This I hope you will hint to the Vizier, that he may not make any requiſition with which it would not be in my power to comply.

I am, &c.

True copies. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
Ralph Broome, Col.
Secy. to Col. Cumming.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to tranſmit you an extract from papers of intelligence received from Delhi, with copies of letters I wrote in conſequence thereof, to the Reſident, and to Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon.

From many other accounts I have reaſon to believe that the Chiefs in the vicinity of Delhi are extremely jealous of the near approach of our troops to their capital, a circumſtance I foreſaw at the time the detachment was formed. To obviate it as much as lay in my power, I wrote the Nabob Mojeddudelowla, that nothing more was intended than the ſecurity of the Vizier's dominions from the incurſions of the Seiks, who, as I informed your Honourable Board in a former letter, had committed horrid devaſtions in the neighbourhood of Anopſheer.

Although the accounts contained in the native intelligence ſhould be ſtrictly true, I am perſuaded no bad conſequences will enſue, as Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon will no doubt take every precaution to avoid giving any offence to his Majeſty or his ſubjects.

I am much at a loſs to know what credit is due to the intelligence I tranſmit your Honourable Board, as nothing of a ſimilar nature has been communicated to Colonel Knudſon: I thought it, however, incumbent on me to give you the earlieſt information of a circumſtance which might in its conſequences be very important.

I am, &c.

Futty Ghur, (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
16th April, 1783. Colonel.

Since

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Since writing the above, I have received a letter from Colonel Knudson, informing me of the Seiks having again crossed the Jumna, without any mention of Afrasiab Khan's army, a copy of which I enclose.

(Signed) J. C.

Extract from Papers of Intelligence received from Delhi, the 14th and 15th of April.

It was represented (to the King) that the English army that was at Anopsheer had plundered a place called Jehangeerabad, and that Afraseab Khan's battalion, on hearing of it, returned. A paper of news from Mirza Shefi's camps was laid before his Majesty. It was then mentioned that he (Mirza Shefis) was going to meet the Patteel, and Zenulabideen Khan, forbidding them to march further, because the English leaders had passed their boundary, and recommending to them to be watchful over their own places.

It was represented that Zeenulabedeen had intended to march further, but had deferred it on account of Mirza Shefis's letter. Afraseab Khan wrote Naseruddowla, that he had, agreeably to his (Mirza Shefis's) orders, sent Gazer Manickchund and others, with four battalions and some horse, from Khorjah to Anopsheer, and that himself with his army should remain at Khorjah. And that, should the English army march further, there would be nobody to prevent them, and that he was ignorant of their intentions. It is reported here by many people that, should there be a want of good understanding between Nasereddowla and the English, he would engage the Seiks of his side, and that a disturbance would be the result. The Nazer was ordered to obtain daily intelligence from the English camp at Anopsheer, and to entertain fresh Hircarrahs for that purpose. It was represented that the gentlemen at Anopsheer had determined on going to Aurungabad; although this is not believed, yet the King replied, We need not be concerned at it; if they come, they will not be disobedient to my authority. It was represented that the English gentlemen were two coss from Aurungabad, and four coss from Afrasaib Khan's army, and that Afrasaib Khan was at Khorjah: Nasereddowlah wrote Afrasiab Khan, that if the English army at Anopsheer should come towards him (Nasereddowla) he should not interrupt them, and if they marched towards Delhi, he should prevent them; but if they continued within their own boundary, it was very well. The King consulted Mohammed Kooli Khan, the Astrologer, with respect to the coming of the English, and the treatment he was to look for. The Astrologer replied, that he had previously predicted the particulars to his Majesty— that

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that the English leaders would come into the presence perfectly obedient to his authority, and behave well; but that some contention would be the result. The King replied, I wish they would speedily and quickly arrive, that it might prove the means of liberation to myself.

A true translation.

(Signed) RALPH BROOME,
Persian Translator to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, commanding a Detachment, dated Futty Ghur, April 14th, 1783.

Sir,

In the papers of intelligence received this day from Delhi, I observe there is mention made of your detachment having plundered a place called Jebangireabad, belonging to his Majesty, and also that you have passed the frontier of the Vizier's dominions. Though I have the strongest assurances within my own mind, that the intelligence is false, or misrepesented, yet I think it necessary you should know that such a report has prevailed at Delhi; should it however have happened that, through misinformation or inadvertency, you have chosen a spot for your encampment not within the Vizier's boundaries, you will be pleased immediately remove your camp, and take up some advantageous piece of ground, within the limits of his Excellency's dominions. By the accompanying paper of intelligence, you will observe that the Chiefs in your neighbourhood are very jealous of your detachment, and it is probable they may send some of their own troops to encamp near you; and to observe your motions; in such event you will be particularly cautious to prevent people belonging to your camp from going into theirs. It frequently happens that very serious consequences attend the disputes of individuals, however insignificant in themselves. And in general I recommend to you to guard as much as possible against giving any cause of jealousy or uneasiness to the King, or any of the people who live under his Government.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING, Col.

P. S. Since writing the above, your letter of the 4th has been received.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

Having observed in the papers of intelligence received this day from Delhi, that it has been represented to the King,

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King, that the detachment under Colonel Knudſon, had plundered a place called Jehangereabad, I thought it neceſſary to write Colonel Knudſon on the ſubject, a copy of which I encloſe for your peruſal, as alſo an extract from the paper of news. I have ordered the detachment not to paſs the Vizier's boundary, as I apprehend it might be attended with diſagreeable conſequences.

Futty Ghur, I am, &c.
14th April, 1783. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING, Col.

Th Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon, commanding a Detachment.

Sir,

I have the pleaſure to ſend you duplicate of a letter I forwarded to you laſt night. By the papers received this day from Delhi, I am given to underſtand, that there is a diſtance of four coſs only between your camp and a detachment of Afraſiab Khan's army, and that he himſelf is at a place called Kherjah. I have heard alſo, that private letters from Gentlemen under your command mention the ſame circumſtance. Though I cannot refuſe credit to a report rendered ſo probable by concurrent intelligence received through different channels, yet I think, if it were ſo, you would not have omitted giving me the earlieſt information of it.

I muſt however take the liberty to remind you how abſolutely neceſſary it is, that I ſhould be informed with all poſſible diſpatch of the motions of any conſiderable body of troops, whether belonging to the Seik Chiefs, or thoſe of Delhi. Whenever you diſpatch any letters of importance, I recommend to you ſending duplicates the ſucceeding day.

I have the honour to be, &c.
Futty Ghur, (Signed) JOHN CUMMING.
15th April, 1783. Colonel.

To John Briſtow, Eſquire, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

Laſt night I tranſmitted you a copy of a letter I wrote Colonel Knudſon, with an extract from papers of intelligence received from Delhi. The news of this day mentions, that there is a diſtance of four coſs only between Afraſiab Khan's army, and Colonel Knudſon's detachment. Private letters received from Gentlemen in camp confirm the above intelligence. I have received no letter from Colonel Knudſon of a later date than the 4th inſtant; and I muſt ſay, I am not a little ſurprized at it. If it be really true that the Chiefs of Delhi are ſo much alarmed at the

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approach of our troops, as has been represented, it is reasonable enough to suppose they will be very attentive to our motions. The greatest apprehensions I am under, arises from the probability that some difference may be excited between the bodies of troops, by the private disputes of individuals. To prevent any mischief of this kind, and remove every cause of jealousy, I have ordered Colonel Knudson to encamp within the Vizier's dominions; and if he has passed the boundary,, it was remote from my intention. Not having correct maps, or other information of the extent of his Excellency's territories on this side of the Ganges, it was not in my power to draw the line within which to confine the detachment. I therefore left it to Colonel Knudson to take any part within ten coss above or below Anopsheer, on the banks of the Ganges, he might think most commodious.

Should the commission of any act of hostility, or any other threatening appearance, make it necessary to reinforce that detachment, I intend marching with my whole remaining force to join them. In such event it may not be expedient to wait the delay of a formal requisition from the Vizier, and I must request you will take his sentiments on this subject, and communicate them to me as soon as possible.

As I have only three regiments remaining, the detachment with the Sezawil inclusive, I should be obliged to take the whole force, and it would then become necessary that a regiment from Khanpore should be ordered hither to take charge of the hospital, stores, &c.

This is an event which I hope will not happen; but as it is not impossible, nor even improbable, if my intelligence can be depended on, I thought it adviseable to communicate to you my thoughts on this subject.

As both the Vizier and yourself, without doubt, have the earliest and most authentic intelligence of every occurence at Delhi and the adjacent parts, I request you will inform me whether your accounts correspond with mine, and whether you think any hostile attempt is to be apprehended from the Chiefs in that neighbourhood. I do not mean by this to insinuate, that it might be adviseable to withdraw the detachment; on the contrary, I think that measure would not only expose his Excellency's frontiers to the incursions of the Seiks, but be dishonourable to our arms, by giving the country powers reason to think, that our own safety was the cause of our retreat.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Futty Ghur, (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
15th April, 1783. Colonel.

To

To Lieutenant Colonel Knudſon, commanding a Detachment.

Sir,

In addition to the inſtruction you have received from me reſpecting the detachment under your command, I have to add, that, in the event of your being attacked either by the Seiks, or any other force, you do by no means paſs the boundaries of the Vizier's dominions, nor permit any part of your troops to do it on any occaſion whatever. I muſt deſire you will be particularly attentive to this circumſtance.

I have the honour to be, be, &c.

Futty Ghur, (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,
15th April, 1783. Colonel.

To Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding the Frontier Station.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that I have received intelligence of a body of Seiks having paſſed the Jumna, under the command of one of their Sirdars, by name Jeſſa Sing; I have apprized Khoja Ain ul Dein, the Ameel of Rohilcund therewith, deſiring him to tranſmit me every information he may receive of the motions of the Seiks, and the tranſactions of the other powers on the frontier of that country, to enable me to take ſuch ſteps as may be neceſſary for the protection of it againſt the incurſions of the Seiks, and other freebooters.

I have the honour to remain, with reſpect, &c.

Jehangereabad, (Signed) CHRISTR. KNUDSON,
12th April, 1783. Lt. Col. commandg. a detachment.

A true copy.

(Signed) Ralph Broome,
Secry. to Col. Sir John Cumming.

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Copy Proceedings and Correspondence relative to the State and Condition of the Country of Oude and its Dependencies, and of the Reigning Family thereof; including the Charges made by Mr. Hastings, against Mr. Bristow, &c. &c. &c.

Consn. 9th July.

To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

IT was my wiſh and intention to have poſtponed any further interference, however neceſſary, relative to the inſtitution of Adowlets at Lucknow, till I ſhould be honoured with your commands, in anſwer to my addreſs to you on this ſubject, dated the 13th inſtant. Unhappily, an event which occurred here yeſterday, has left me without an alternative; and I have been compelled once more to call upon the Miniſter, and again ſtrongly to recommend the immediate eſtabliſhment of a court of Phoujedarry.

Whilſt we were at ſupper laſt night, an Hircarrah entered haſtily, and informed the company, that a band of robbers had beſet the houſe of Mr. Orr, hardly diſtant one hundred yards from that in which we were aſſembled. Captain M'Leod, taking my guard along with him, inſtantly repaired to the ſpot: The banditti, however, had already quitted it, after plundering a banker's, whoſe dwelling-houſe was contiguous to that of Mr. Orr. Mr. Orr himſelf, on the firſt alarm, coming out of his houſe, narrowly eſcaped being pierced by an arrow, which paſſed cloſe by his head, and fixed in the door behind him. So little apprehenſive were the robbers of any oppoſition or alarm, on the part of the police, to interrupt or fruſtrate their deſign, that though the band conſiſted of at leaſt 250 men, they marched openly, with lights, carrying ſcalding-ladders, ſmiths, carpenters, and every neceſſary implement for enſuring ſucceſs to their enterprize. They made their attack with the moſt confident deliberation, a part of them lining the ſtreets on both ſides, and ſhutting up all the avenues, whilſt the remainder entered the devoted houſe over the walls, and rifled it of caſh and other property to the amoun of 25,000 rupees.

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In the courſe of this daring tranſaction, theſe inhuman villains indiſcriminately cut down, or ſhot with arrows, all who came in their way. Of the unhappy victims to their cruelty, two were killed on the ſpot; two more are already dead of their wounds, and others are ſo ſhockingly mangled, as to leave little hope of their recovering.

It is with infinite concern, Gentlemen, I am obliged to add, that no night elapſes, which is not marked by ſome ſuch tragical event, and in which the miſerable inhabitants of the metropolis of the Vizier's dominions are not expoſed, in their property and perſons, to all the horrors of plunder and aſſaſſination. Yet the Miniſter continues deaf to all my remonſtrances, pertinaciouſly adhering, in ſpite of ſuch fatal evidence, to his original declaration of a regular and efficient magiſtracy. Surrounded night and day by a ſtrong military guard, he may indeed ſafely liſten, with perfect indifference, to the recurring tale of robbery and murder; yet, next after the Prince himſelf, Hyder Beg Khawn is the immediate and natural guardian of the lives and fortunes of his ſubjects.—Inſenſible, however, to all the feelings of humanity, no prayers or perſuaſion can move him to adopt one wholeſome meaſure for their protection or defence. To my laſt application on the ſubject of the Phoujedary, he replied (in the ſame language of frivolous excuſe and evaſion which he has held for months paſt) That he only waited the return of the Nabob, to remove from the houſe allotted for the Court certain furniture belonging to his Excellency, which was depoſited there; and that it was not *polite* to interfere in the œconomy of a Gentleman's houſehold during his abſence. Thus it is, Gentlemen, that this unfeeling Miniſter (who has never ſcrupled, and frequently on very unbecoming occaſions, to avail himſelf of the controuling authority he has for years paſt uſurped and exerciſed over his Maſter) affects on a ſudden, as it were in deriſion, a ſuperabundant reſpect for him, and, in a ſituation of the laſt neceſſity, ſtarts at the idea of diſpenſing with the moſt idle and impertinent forms. His determined oppoſition in this inſtance, as well as in every other wearing the ſlighteſt appearance of reformation, evinces his reſolution to perpetuate the confuſion, in which, with a view to his own emolument, he has purpoſely involved every part of the Nabob's œconomy. His attachment to the preſent ſyſtem is very natural, ſince it has hitherto afforded him the means of appropriating to himſelf, unqueſtioned, whatever part of his Excellency's revenue he might ſee fit, and left him at perfect liberty to ſquander the re-

mainder among his worthless adherents with shameful profusion.

I have the honour to subscribe myself, with the greatest respect,

Gentlemen,

Lucknow, May 20th, 1783.

Your most obedient Humble servant,

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secrt Dpt.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Member of the Supreme Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to transmit you a plan of arrangements framed in strict conformity to the Honourable Governor General's instructions to me, and intended to correct the prevailing and alarming abuses of the Vizier's government. To prevent the trouble of a reference, I also take the liberty to enclose you a copy of such part of those instructions as have any relation to this subject.

The proposed regulations having been translated into the Persian language, and delivered to Hyder Beg Khawn for his consideration and opinion, after repeated excuses and delays, I could prevail on him to give no answer whatever, except on the subject of the Dewanny, which he flatly told me, in the presence of Mr. Cowper, cloaked a design to remove him from his office; nay, he has even dared to maintain the same proposition under his hand,; yet this, Gentlemen, is a point absolutely insisted upon by the Governor General, and for the very best reasons. Those reasons are indeed of such force as to require no corroboration. The abuses of this department will be best understood from the accompanying memorandum of a conversation between me and Rajah Jaggernaut, the son-in-law of Rajah Soorut Sing, and the person at present in ostensible possession of the office of Dewaun; whilst every purpose of its institution is utterly destroyed by Hyder Beg's uniting in this, as in every other instance, the controuling and executive powers in his own person. In order to explain the circumstances giving rise to this conversation, it is necessary I should inform you, that Hyder Beg Khawn had uniformly treated the idea of a reform in this department as ridiculous, asserting, that no office was ever conducted with greater regularity; and endeavouring to deceive me into an opinion, that the several officers of it were in the full exercise of their respective functions: When at last he perceived I was at all events determined to ascertain the truth, he shift-

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ed his ground, and had recourse to the subterfuge above alluded to. Again, Gentlemen, could any entreaties have prevailed on the Minister to co-operate with and assist me, that other most important clause of my instructions had long since been complied with, and a plan adopted to regulate and limit in future the Nabob's personal disbursements. But here again the Minister has failed in all his engagements with me. It is however pushing his presumption a little too far, when he affirms, that to urge the performance of a condition, expressly recommended and acceded to by the Vizier in the treaty of Chunar, is a direct insult to the person and usurpation of the rights of his Sovereign. He indeed well knows the reverse of this proposition is true; but it is not to be imagined that he should patiently abandon the prime instrument of his ascendency, by which he has hitherto implicitly commanded the words and actions of the Prince his Master. It requires no argument to prove, that so long as the disbursements to the Nabob's privy purse shall continue to depend upon the will, and to be furnished at the discretion of the Minister, the Minister will preserve a power of the most dangerous and ruinous tendency over his Excellency's mind, which is equally impossible he should escape from or contend with. Hyder Beg Khawn had too much sagacity not to be aware that the regulations I proposed would effectually baffle his policy, by making the Vizier perfectly independent of him; and he of course employed all his authority to compel his Master into a resistance against the only measure which could rescue him from his present humiliating state of vassalage, and restore him to his dignity. This, however, Gentlemen, is a point, as I conceive, never to be yielded, because it is not till after this event that we can hope to see the disorder and profusion which now pervades and disgraces the Nabob's œconomy, corrected, or expect any wise or salutary administration of his Finances.

When we find the enormous proportion of a third of the Vizier's annual income assigned to the sole purpose of securing the internal peace of his country, and the collection of the revenues, we are naturally led to conclude, the fund being so conspicuously superabundant, that the application of it would at least ensure every end of its establishment. Those, however, who should so reason, in the present instance, would be much deceived, since it is only last year that all the Company's troops in the Vizier's dominions, except twelve hundred Sepoys (troops solely intended for the defence of this country against foreign invasion) were employed in the business of the collection, and the subjection of refractory Zemindars; because Hyder Beg Khan kept up no establishment of the Muttynna.—

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The compound evil arising to the publick from this conduct, is too obvious to require comment or observation.—Not only the positive sum of near a crore of rupees was dissipated thereby, but the several districts, left destitute of defence, fell a prey to violence, and very soon exhibited a face of ruin and disolation shocking to humanity; it begot a licentiousness, which compelled people of character and property to quit a country under whose government they derived security for neither.

From the above reasons, and from the result of all my enquiries into this establishment, I am confimed in my opinion, that nothing less than a total reform can correct the abuses of it.—At the same time, it is much to be lamented, that the nature of this evil requires the remedy should be gradual and progressive.—The farce of the Adawlut, and the horrible disorders resulting from the neglect of the indispensible institution, I have already, Gentlemen, had the honour to explain to you. I have now to add, on this unpleasant subject, that within these last three weeks near one hundred persons have lost their lives, or been wounded, either openly in broils, or privately by assassination.

The appointment of a Paymaster and Muster Masters, is a mockery of the same nature with the institution of the Adawlut.

I before informed you, Gentlemen, that, with a view to promote the public service, I had neglected no opportunity (though always fruitlessly) to engage the good will and confidence of the minister. It was still in this idea that, together with the plan of regulations, I delivered a written engagement to Hyder Beg Khan, promising, so soon as your commands were executed, that, in my representations to the Honourable Board, I would do every justice in my power to his zeal and fidelity. The reception he has given to this fresh instance of my friendly disposition towards him, has been perfectly consistent with all his former conduct, and evinces, to demonstration, that no advances on my part will ever prevail upon him to unite with me in measures, which, however they may have the general good for their object, must still continue irreconcileable to his principles and policy; both the one and the other being apparently and uniformly determined by his private and particular interests. .. ..

From what has been said, you will be satisfied, Gentlemen, that this unhappy country is already in a condition of oppression and misery, from which it is hardly possible it should decline. Retarded, however, as they have been by the determined contumacy of the Minister, it is not yet too late to accomplish the several great and salutary objects of my appointment; and here, Gentlemen, I pledge myself

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myself, at the risk of my character and fortune, to fulfil them all. At the time I chearfully take upon me so serious and so heavy a responsibility, I flatter myself you will deem it equitable and expedient I should no longer be exposed to an opposition that must for ever render my exertions nugatory and abortive—an opposition, which, by long sufferance, has acquired a strength no qualifying measures can now surmount, and against which no zeal, ability, or vigilance will aught avail.

And here, Gentlemen, permit me finally to solicit the speedy and decisive interposition of your authority.—It cannot escape you how entirely this open and this avowed resistance of the Minister must destroy, amongst all ranks, the respect due to the person and station of your representative at the court of Oude; a respect, without which he must still want the weight and importance so necessary to the successful management of your political negotiations, as well as the credit indispensibly required to answer the pecuniary demands and expectation of your government.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

Gentlemen,

Lucknow, 6th June, 1783.

Your most faithful and
Very obedient servant
JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Being informed by Mr. Anderson, that the great distress suffered, for want of money, had obliged Colonel Charles Morgan to order the Candahar horse to proceed immediately to Lucknow without waiting for the rest of the detachment; and as Abdul Rechman Cawn has applied to me through his brother at this place, for 30,000 rupees to supply the expences of their march, I have complied accordingly.—In the estimate of the Company's claim on account of the Fuzully year 1190, the Nabob Vizier is charged with the sum of 3,00,000 rupees, for the support of that corps; and as Colonel Morgan cannot possibly supply them on the road, and the emergency is very great, I hope the advance of this sum will meet with the Board's approbation.

Abdul Rechman Cawn having distinguished himself in a conspicuous manner, I submit to your consideration, Gentlemen, whether it would not be an eligible measure, upon

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upon his arrival, to solicit the Nabob Vizier to have his corps attached to the brigade at Cawnpore.

I am, with the highest respect, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BBISTOW,
20th June, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Since I had last the honour to address you, I have been confined to my room by indisposition: I am now somewhat recovered, and shall not fail to expedite my reply to your commands of the 29th ultimo, which I have on this account been compelled to postpone.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Lucknow, Your most obedient
the 23d June, 1783. Humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
A true copy. Resident at the Vizier's Court.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

To Mr. John Bristow.

Sir,

Conformably to the reference of the Board, I recommend and enjoin your strictest attention to the following instructions.

1st. The balance due from the Nabob Vizier to the Company, partly from the negligence and inaccuracy with which the monthly accounts were drawn out, and partly from the inattention of the late Resident, had been suffered to accumulate to an amount exceeding that at which it stood at the close of the last year, notwithstanding the special care which I myself had taken, in my agreement with the Nabob Vizier, concluded on the 19th of September, 1781, at Chunar, and my instructions delivered at the same time to the Resident, since enforced with very peremptory and repeated orders. This obliged me lately to write, in very strong and unusual terms, both to the Resident and to the Minister, and produced the effect of an immediate exertion, and consequent discharge of a part of the balance, and assurances of the speedy payment of the remainder. I do not implicitly rely on these assurances; but conclude, that on your arrival you will find either a large balance still outstanding of the last year's account, or

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that the whole has been paid off by encroachments on the current year's revenue. In either case, your attention will be equally required to the settlement of this year's assignment, unless it shall have been already accomplished. You will be careful to guard against fictitious estimates; and if any such shall appear in the assignment already formed, you will of course insist upon their being exchanged for others, or their Jumma reduced to their real value, and others added to complete the sum of the year's demands; that is to say, the last year's arrears, the two subsidies of the current, and the other sums for the payment of which our Government has or shall have made itself responsible; so that, at the close of the year, the whole shall be entirely and completely discharged.

2d. You will observe a very considerable difference between Mr. Middleton's account and the corrected account delivered to him by the Accountant General, and now in the possession of your Accountant Mr. Wombwell; a difference nearly equal to thirty lacks of rupees. To the former, though made up with false calculations, gross omissions, and even balances falsely transferred from one month's account to the other, Mr. Middleton has pertinaciously adhered, affecting to call the difference a new claim upon the Nabob. I fear this may render it an unpleasant office to you to rectify his errors, as I have no doubt that the same declaration which he has made to this Government will have been made as a concession to the Nabob and his Minister, and of course your demand for the difference treated as unjust and formed on false pretences: But the real account is so clear, and the differences are so self-apparent, that it will be impossible for the Minister to controvert or misunderstand them, however he may affect the latter.

3d. Endeavour to obtain an early and minute information of the state of the province of Owde especially, and the rest of the Nabob's Vizier's dominions; and report the result of your enquiries to me, under the following heads; viz.

1st. Their Government.

2d. Their millitary defence, and distribution of the Nabob's forces.

3d. Revenue.

4th. Disposition and actual conduct of the Zemindars, and the means taken for restoring and preserving the quiet of the country.

5th. The character and credit of the principal Aumils.

6th. Under this general head I must also refer to your enquiry, and desire you will inform me, whether

ther the sums lately levied, or affirmed to have been levied, and brought to the Company's credit, by Mr. Johnson, have been drawn from the Revenue of the last year; or borrowed, and assignments given for the repayment, on the Revenues of that year; or exacted by anticipations of the current Revenue? one of which cases I very much suspect, because they must have been received at a season in which the regular collections are always at a stand.

7th. Also by what mode, and through what Agents, these collections were made.

4th. Immediately on your arrival, sound the disposition of Hyder Beg Cawn.—His conduct has for some time past been highly reproachable. Till within these three months, when Mr. Johnson assumed a large portion of his authority, he possessed without controul both the unparticipated and entire administration, with all the powers annexed to that Government, the Nabob himself being, as he ever must be in the hands of some person, a mere cypher in his, and the sanction by which he exercised his authority; yet he has dared both to use the Nabob's name, and even his seal affixed to letters, either dictated to the Nabob, or written from him without his knowledge, containing very improper demands on our Government, and such as evidently tended to promote Hyder Beg's influence and interest, and even to make him assume a very unbecoming tone of refusal, reproach, and resentment, in opposition to measures recommended by me, and even to acts done by my authority in literal conformity to the Nabob's own and earnest solicitations; such as the resumption of the Jagheers, and the seizure of his father's treasures, which have been so long suffered to remain in the hands of the Beegum his mother, and the other conditions of the engagement exacted from me at Chunar. On every occasion of this kind, the late Resident has been the faithful echo and support of the Minister's pretentions; I must therefore have recourse to you for the introduction of a new system in that Government. Nor can I omit, while I express my reliance upon you for this purpose, to repeat the sentiments which I expressed in the verbal instructions which I gave you at your departure, that there can be no medium in the relation between the Resident and the Minister, but either the Resident must be the slave and vassal of the Minister, or the Minister at the absolute devotion of the Resident. Much as I am displeased at the conduct of the Minister, I impute it more to the sufferance of Mr. Middleton than to himself; and if he will submit to hold his office on such conditions as I require, I would

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I would certainly prefer him to any other man who could be nominated to his office, because he possesses abilities, and a knowledge of business.—He exists by his dependence on the influence of our Government; and above all, because a change of administration, in a government so loose as that of Owde, where all the parts of it are held together by the exertion of actual power, and not by the springs of an established constitution, would be unavoidably productive of confusion and loss of revenue.—Therefore it may be adviseable to try him by the mode of conciliation, in your first conversation with him; at the same time that it will be necessary to declare to him, in the plainest terms, the footing and conditions on which he shall be permitted to retain his place, with the alternative of dismission and a scrutiny into his past conduct if he refuses it.—In the first place, I will not receive from the Nabob as his, letters dictated by the spirit of opposition; but shall consider every such attempt as the Minister's, and as an insult on our Government. In the second place, I shall expect that nothing is done in his official character but with your knowledge and participation; at the same time, the first share of the responsibility will rest with you. The other conditions will follow distinctly in their places, because I consider you as responsible for them.

5th. No administration can be properly conducted without regular offices.—In that of Owde there is not one, the whole being engrossed by the Minister. Two are indispensably necessary: first, an office of collections; secondly, an office of treasury. I insist upon these establishments being formed immediately; and it must be your care to appoint such checks to each, that whatever sums are paid from the revenue shall be duly entered, and credit given for their exact amount in the office of collections; and, in like manner, that no sums shall pass the Treasury without a similar controul. The heads of these offices must of course be under the general direction of the Minister in all points excepting their accounts, for the fidelity of which they must be solely responsible, and made liable to the severest punishments if they falsify them. What other offices may have been in use in the time of the Nabob Suja ul Dowla, and at this time necessary, you will enquire, and either cause them to be re-established, or not, as it shall appear to be proper.

In this last description I include the Adawluts; you will find them recommended, but conditionally, in my instructions to Mr. Middleton: it is certain that the want of them, and the universal and extreme licentiousness occasioned thereby, is one of the most disreputable defects of the Vizier's Government; yet I much doubt whether, introduced

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introduced into such a state at once, and abruptly, they would not add to the mischiefs which they were intended to redress; for perhaps there is scarce an individual who would not become immediately obnoxious to their authority, and, I fear, scarce an individual capable of discharging even a small portion of their decrees; while they do not exist, every man knows the hazard which he incurs in lending his money. Their establishment might tend to deceive, by holding out the appearance of false assurances; and with respect to oppressions of every species, unless each Court was armed with a strong military force, it would not be in their power to prevent or punish them; neither in that case is it certain, that they would not themselves prove the greatest instruments of oppression. The Aumils, in the first instance, and the Munduls or Chiefs of the villages ultimately, must supply this defect, if it cannot be otherwise remedied. I merely intimate this subject to you, as proper for your enquiry and consideration, but cannot give you any instructions concerning it.

6th. Great care must be taken in the choice of Aumils; I shall not descend to particulars, but enjoin one caution only as indispensably necessary—that no Aumil be appointed to a frontier station, without such pledge or other security for compelling his personal appearance whenever required, as may insure, beyond a doubt, his obedience and fidelity; and both these and others, wherever stationed, ought to have the means of self-protection, and to be trusted and supported.

8th. From the practice which the late Resident, his deputy, and the Minister, seem to have prescribed to themselves, of with-holding all official information from me, I have been under the necessity of forming my opinion of the state of the Nabob's Government upon private intelligence; but this, from its variety, from its concurrence, notwithstanding the various channels through which it has passed, and, above all, from its notoriety, comes to me with all the weight which the highest authority could give it. For some facts, I have the testimony of sworn evidence; such are the transactions of the rebel Zemindars of Goorookpoor and Bareach, in the insurrections of the last year, which had for their immediate object the destruction of Colonel Hannay, and the officers of his command, and ultimately the extirpation of the English influence and power throughout the whole of the Nabob Vizier's dominions. The Zemindars who distinguished themselves on this occasion were Zalim Sing, Ajeet Mull, Goenoo Roy, and Perty Pall Sing. I am well informed that these men have persevered in their rebellious conduct, without deviation, to the present time, though the Nabob's, and not our

Government,

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Government, is the object of it. Represent to the Nabob, and effectually, the bad policy of suffering such examples to pass with impunity; obtain his order for employing some sure means for apprehending these Zemindars; and if it shall appear, on a fair and regular enquiry, that their conduct towards the Nabob (I pass over that which regards ourselves alone) has been such as it has been reported to be, he ought, and you must insist upon it, to punish them with death, and to treat with the same rigour every Zemindar and every subject who shall be the leader in a rebellion against his authority. Severe as this injunction may appear at the first sight, it will be mercy in its effects, if the Nabob will adopt the policy, by insuring the tranquillity of this country, and saving the blood of his people; for the resolution once published, and enforced in a single instance, will make it unnecessary to prosecute it to a second example.

10th. On the information of the defection of Almass Ally Khan, of symptoms apparent of the like disposition in the Aumil of Rohilcund, and of the general anarchy which prevailed in every other part of the Nabob's dominions, the Board, though officially unapprised of these, as of every other subject requiring their knowledge of them, resolved and ordered, that a strong detachment, under Colonel Sir John Cummings, should march into the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, both for its internal defence, and for the relief of the numerous detachments which we understand, and this also from private information only, have been made by the sole authority of Mr. Johnson, covered by the Nabob's formal requisition, from the army stationed at Cawnpore. You will receive an order from the Board, to notify to the Commanding Officer of every detachment, that its services are no longer required; which notification it will rest with your discretion to make on the instant in which you shall see that it can be done with safety; and a correspondent order will be sent to Colonel Morgan, to command the instant return of every detachment within four-and-twenty hours after the receipt of every such notification. Upon this subject I desire you to bear in mind, that the army in Cawnpore, or in whatever part of the frontier it may be stationed, is appointed for the external defence of the Nabob's dominions, and for that only; that this was its original destination, intended by the treaty of 1773, commonly known by the treaty of Benares; and that every deviation from this object, and every diminution of its force, are impolitic, and highly dangerous to our own existence, by the encouragement which it will afford to foreign invasion. I understand that at this time there are only two regiments of

of sepoys, left, to support the small body of Europeans to which the strength of that station is now reduced. Events may hereafter arise of so sudden and urgent an emergency, as to require a temporary deviation from this maxim; but it will be with the greatest reluctance and dissatisfaction that the Board will ever hear of such a disposition, and therefore you must be careful that the exigency be such, from its urgency and necessity, as will clearly justify you in deviating from it, though but by the call of a single regiment off that station to any part of the Nabob's internal dominions; and on every such occasion you must be careful to comply with every formality enjoined by my instructions to Mr. Middleton, dated the 23d of September, and to transmit instant advice of it to the Board, not waiting for the detail of your reasons, which, to prevent delays, may follow as you shall have leisure to forward them.

I must make it my particular injunction, that such a notification as I have mentioned above may be, at all events, instantly transmitted to the officer commanding the detachment sent to Furruckabad, if my information be true, that such a measure has been assumed by Mr. Johnson; for which no pretext can justify him.

14th. Study, on every occasion, to conciliate the good will of the Nabob, and shew him ever ostensible and external mark of respect. I should hope, that, with due attention, you would not find it difficult to make himself the mover of every act necessary, whether for the advancement of his own interest or the discharge of his debts to the Company. But this can never be effected while the Minister maintains that ascendant over him which he at present holds, by the means of a nearer and more private intercourse, and by affecting to the vindicator of his rights, against the claims of our government. In my late engagement with the Nabob, it was stipulated that a certain sum should be set apart monthly for his private expence, and this made a part of my private instructions to Mr. Middleton. The sum was afterwards fixed, as I recollect, at thirty lacks. It was my intention and direction, that this appropriation should be made before any other; and this I make my present injunction to you, requiring also, that you do make it a point of immediate and strict enquiry, whether the Nabob has hitherto received the whole, and punctual payment of the sum assigned to this account, or any part of it has been withheld from him, whether with or without his concurrence. I mention this, because, from some private information which I have lately received, I have reason to suspect that this is actually the case. Whatever foundation there may be for this report,

let

let justice be done to the Nabob, and if he has been deceived, undeceive him.

15th. The Nabob has repeatedly and bitterly complained of the indignity which he suffers in his authority by the usurpation of the Company's Resident, and as repeatedly demanded, that, whenever the Company's balance shall be completely discharged, he may be freed from this vexation; that he may be permitted to pay the subsidy in ready money; and that the assignments, which have been granted to satisfy that demand, may be restored to him. I confess that I did myself give encouragement to this proposition, knowing at the same time the quarter from whence it came, I mean from Hyder Beg Khan; and, willing to exonerate this Government from the trouble and responsibility, and the Company from the disgrace, of whatever might attend the administration of the Nabob's Government, I thought too that it presented a sure prospect of the regular payment of the current demands, by the penalty which would attend the failure in the resumption of the former system of assignments, and in the personal claims which it would bring on the Minister: but his misconduct has since manifested itself in so many particular instances, beside the universal disorder of the country, and this is so alarming in its effects to our own Goverment, that I shall hesitate, until I have the surest and most satisfactory grounds to recommend an acquiescence in such a measure. At present, the plea on which it is grounded is probably yet at some distance; for while I am writing these instructions, fresh circumstances occur to my knowledge, which make me much suspect the real payment of the sums brought to the Nabob's credit for the last year's balance. It may not, however, be amiss to talk with the Minister on the subject; to let him know that it is well understood to be a demand for substituting his authority in the place of the Company's, and to invest him with the sovereignty of the Nabob's dominions; to ask him, whether he shall in such case expect the Company's protection; and if he does, by what claim of right; and whether, in the event of his involving our Government in a new scene of hostilities, by those which his mal-administration may produce, whether internally or by invasion, in that country, he shall think himself in justice exempt from the personal vengeance which we may be disposed to exact from him. At all events, the proposition must be discouraged till a safer season for its acceptance; but the absolute rejection of it eluded with the Nabob, if he shall himself renew it.

16th. For the rest, I refer you to my instructions to Mr. Middleton, to which, in every point not revoked or

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qualified by these instructions, I must require your most attentive and literal obedience.

17th. I do justice to my sense of your character in declaring my entire reliance on your prudence and integrity; and to these I trust for your deviation from any part of these instructions, at your discretion, in any instance which shall appear to you necessarily to require it; desiring, however, as a proper caution, that, as much as you can you will leave the subject free for my correction of it, and instantly inform me, or the Board, according to the degree of its importance, that you have acted in such a manner, with your reasons for it.

I am,
Fort William, Sir,
Oct. 23d, 1782. Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true copy.
S. Hill,
Assist. to the Resident.

Letter of Instructions from the Governor General to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To Mr. Nathaniel Middleton, Resident at the Court of Nabob Vizier.

Sir,

Having on the 19th instant entered into certain engagements with the Nabob Vizier, tending to relieve his finances of a burthen they were no longer able to sustain, with sundry other clauses, the execution of which is entrusted to you, I herewith inclose an authentic copy of the same for your guidance. The Nabob, on his behalf, has subscribed and sealed an agreement in your presence, and in the presence of Mr. Richard Johnson and Hyder Beg Khan, respecting the better administration of his affairs, of which I also transmit you an authentic copy.

To these papers, and to the points consequently and necessarily dependant on them, I think it necessary to add the following instructions, to which I require your most implicit obedience.

I need scarcely inform you, that my chief object, in my negociations with the Nabob, has been to induce and assist him to bring his Government and finances into such regularity, as to prevent his alliance from being a clog instead of an Aid to the Company: and to enable him to discharge his debt in the shortest time possible. To this end, the most essential point is to limit and separate his personal disbursements from the public accounts. They must

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must not, in their total annual amount, exceed what he has received in any of the last three years. This amount, in twelve equal parts, should be paid him monthly out of the first receipts; and the remainder of the net collections placed separately in a public treasury, from whence his public, military, and civil establishment must be paid, under the sole management and controul of the Ministers, with your concurrence. It is of course to be understood, that this has no connection, and is in no shape to interfere with the Company's assignment and the collections upon them, which are to be conducted as usual: and as by the addition of the Jagheer lands, with their revenues, to the Nabob's regular collections, his income will, or ought to be, considerably increased, I shall expect that the whole of the excess be appropriated to the discharge of the Nabob's debts to the Company.

After settling the amount of the personal disbursements of the Nabob Vizier and his household, the next point that will require your exertion, towards the general arrangement of the public charges, is to reform the established Muttaiena troops, reducing them into one established corps for the whole service. If this corps should be brought to consist solely of cavalry; it would best answer mutual benefit, leaving no infantry in the Nabob's service but what may be necessary for his body guard; and to supply the deficiency, should any occur from such arrangement, our infantry may be employed where infantry are wanted.

The corps reformed and established, their pay must be issued from the public treasury: no assignments to be in future granted them, and those already issued to be recalled. To complete this, all numbers above what the real service may require, or the actual net receipts may be adequate to the full payment of, must be disbanded as fast as their arrears can be paid off.

The Nabob will select and appoint his own Commanders; but if he should nominate improper persons, such as men commonly known by the name of Orderlies, or others deriving their influence from them, or of known disaffection to our Government, you are in such case to remonstrate against it; and if the Vizier shall persist in his choice, you are peremptorily, and in my name, to oppose it as a breach of agreement.

For the management of the collections, the Ministers, with your concurrence, are to chuse all Aumils and Collectors, and in their choice to be guided by the responsibility, good reputation, and known ability of the persons they elect, that changes may, as far as possible, be avoided.

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Much is to be ſaid, though little may now ſuit, upon the ſubject of the diſtribution of juſtice in the Nabob's dominions. For the preſent, I limit myſelf to direct you to urge the Nabob to endeavour gradually, if it cannot be done at once, to eſtabliſh Courts of Adawlut throughout his diſtricts; the Darogahs, Mowlavies, and other officers of which muſt be ſelected, as in the caſe of the Aumils, by the Miniſters, with your concurrence.—The want of theſe Courts is equally hurtful to the revenue, government, and reputation of the Nabob.

In conſequence of the diſturbances which the rebellious examples of Rajah Chiet Sing has cauſed in the Nabob Vizier's country, I have inſtructed Colonel Morgan to aſſiſt you, on the requiſition of the Vizier, communicated by you to him, or at your own ſingle application, if any caſe of emergency ſhould make it needful, with ſuch detachments as may be neceſſary, excluſive of the regiment of Sepoys which is ſtipulated to remain with you at Lucknow. This power you are not to exerciſe but in caſe of the moſt urgent and manifeſt neceſſity. It is directed, that the regiment ordered for the immediate protection of your office and perſon at Lucknow, ſhall be relieved every three months, and, during its ſtay there, ſhall act ſolely and excluſively under your orders.

It is finally my poſitive order, That you do not permit any Britiſh ſubjects, or others, claiming the name and protection of the Company, to reſide at Lucknow, or within any part of the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, except the officers and ſoldiers of the army acting in their duty, and ſuch perſons as are officially appointed to remain there. And that, to ſuch as are now at Lucknow, or in any other part of this dominion, not falling within the deſcription of the above exception, you give due notice in writing, that they quit the country, allowing them a reaſonable time, not exceeding three months, to ſettle their affairs; and in caſe of their refuſal, you are to inform the Nabob thereof, that he may uſe his own authority to compel them to depart.

Chunar, I am,
23d September, 1781. Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
A true copy. (Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.
S. Hill,
Aſſiſt. to the Reſident.

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Copy of the Agreement concluded by the Governor General with the Vizier, on the 19th of September, 1781.

The Nabob Vizier ul Mummalick Aſſof ul Dowlah, Aſſof Joh, Yeheyah Khan Behadar, having repeatedly and urgently repreſented, that he is unable to ſupport the expences of the temporary brigade, cavalry, and Engliſh officers, with their battalions, as well as other gentlemen who are now paid by him, under the denomination of Sebundy, &c. &c. and having made ſundry requeſts to that and other purpoſes; and as the conſtancy and firmneſs of his alliance with the Company entitle him to every conſideration and relief that may depend upon us, I Warren Haſtings, Governor General, I Maud ud Dowlah Jelladit Jung Behader, &c. &c. on behalf of the Governor General and Council, have agreed to the under-mentioned articles, the 19th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1781, correſponding to the laſt day of Ramzan, 1195 of the Hedjeree.

1ſt. That the temporary brigade, and three regiments of cavalry, be no longer charged to the Nabob's account for the year Fuſſelee 1189, excepting a term of two and a half months, which is required for their paſſing the Nabob's boundaries, and for which, together with all former arrears, their uſual pay and allowances are to be made good. Alſo the Engliſh officers, with their Sebundy battalions, and other gentlemen, excepting the Reſident's office, now upon the Nabob's liſt, be no longer at his charge for the year 1189, the arrears being paid up, with the addition of two months allowances. The true meaning of this being, that no more troops be paid for by the Nabob, than the number of European infantry, artillery, and ſepoys, agreed for, under the title of one brigade, with the late Nabob Shujah ud Dowlah, now paid for at the rate of 260,000 rupees per month, to which is now to be added one regiment of ſepoys of the preſent eſtabliſhment, expreſsly allowed for the purpoſe of protecting the office, treaſury, and perſon, of the Reſident at Lucknow, the pay and allowances of which are to commence from the 1ſt of Aughun next, at the rate of rupees 25,000 per month. The regiment to be relieved every three months. The brigade to be ſtationed or moved whenever the Nabob ſhall direct, in the mode preſcribed in the former treaty with the Nabob Vizier deceaſed. And, finally, that whenever the Nabob Vizier ſhall require a further aid of troops from the Company, the pay and allowances ſhall commence from the day of their paſſing the Carumnaſſa. Alſo, ſhould the aſſiſtance of the Nabob's troops be required by the Company, their pay and allowances, as may then be agreed upon, be allowed during the time they may ſerve.

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2d. That, as great diſtreſs has ariſen to the Nabob's government, from the military power and dominion aſſumed by the Jaghierdars, he be permitted to reſume ſuch as he may find neceſſary, with a reſerve that all ſuch, for the amount of whoſe jagheers the Company are guarantees, ſhall, in caſe of the reſumption of their lands, be paid the amount of their net collections, through the Reſident, in ready money.

3d. That as Fyz-Oolla Khan has, by his breach of treaty, forfeited the protection of the Engliſh government, cauſes, by his continuance in his preſent independent ſtate, great alarm and detriment to the Nabob, he be permitted, when time ſhall ſuit, to reſume his lands, and pay him in money, through the Reſident, the amount ſtipulated by treaty, after deducting the amount and charges of the troops he ſtands engaged to furniſh by treaty, which amount ſhall be paſſed to the account of the Company, during the continuance of the preſent war.

4th. That no Engliſh Reſident be appointed to Furruckabad, and the preſent one recalled.

5th. That the treaties made between the Engliſh and the Nabob Shujah ud Dowlah be ratified between the preſent parties, as far as may be conſiſtent with the above-written articles; and that no officers, troops, or others, be put upon the Nabob's eſtabliſhment, excluſive of thoſe herein ſtipulated.

A true copy. (Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.
S. Hill,
Aſſiſt. to the Reſt.

Copy of the Agreement made by the Vizier with the Governor General.

Having on my behalf agreed to the requiſitions of the Nabob Vizier, without diminution or reſerve, I muſt now repeat the requeſt, which I before verbally made to him, That he will be pleaſed to attend to ſuch propoſals as I ſhall have to make to him; and to theſe I expect his aſſent the more readily, as they have for their ultimate object his intereſt alone, that of the Company being no further concerned than in the influence which they will eventually have in the payment of the debts due from the Nabob to the Company. I therefore recommend to him to reduce the great number of his Sebundy and other troops to regular and complete eſtabliſhments, not to be paid by aſſignments of revenue, but in money from the Treaſury, and their number not to exceed the certain means of paying them. But, as this may be difficult, without making a ſeparation of the Nabob's private and public funds, I further recommend,

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mend, that he receive into his private purse no more than a fixed monthly sum, for the expences of his person and household; and that the remainder of the net collections be left in a public Treasury, under the management of his public Ministers, and the inspection of the Resident, for the discharge of his military and civil disbursements.

This advice is not meant to affect the assignments actually made, and which must be annually renewed, for the payment of the past debt, and the current demands of the Company.

Signed and sealed by the Nabob; accepting, and promising to conform to the above advice.

A true copy.
S. Hill,
Assist. to the Rest.

A true copy of an enclosure
Mr. Bristow's letter.
E. HAY,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Translation of Propositions for the better Settlement of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Affairs.

1st. The realizing the Company's balance is the first object. This year the bad management of many of the Aumils, and the delaying to settle their accounts in proper time, caused great confusion in many parts of the country. A balance will be the consequence. The year is now expiring; it is proper every district should be settled, the extraordinary charges curtailed, and the necessary expences be paid, that the Aumils may receive charge from the beginning of the year, make their arrangements in proper time, and have no excuse for not paying the revenue.

2d. The office of Dewan has been long held by Rajah Soorut Sing; but the Rajah possesses no authority in it; and the accounts I have required, were furnished with great difficulty and delay; exclusive of which, persons who have connection with the office transact the business. It is necessary that orders should be issued to every Aumil and Soorishtedar, directing them to furnish, without delay or evasion, every account the Rajah may require. The accounts of every district and place, as well as of all the establishments, shall be deposited in the Dewan's Cutcherry, for which a proper house shall be allotted. If accounts, once delivered in, should ever be changed or altered in any particular, by any of the officers of the Dewanny, severe punishments should be inflicted on the offenders. You will be pleased to ascertain the different departments of the Dewanny from its officers, specifying the officers, the per-

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ſons who hold them, and every particular ſeparately, and favour me with an account of the whole.

3d. A Treaſurer was appointed for the Vizier's perſona expences, and a Paymaſter for the army; provided the revenues had been remitted according to the propoſed plan, the ſum total of them (the Company's aſſignments excepted) would have been depoſited in thoſe treaſuries, and the particulars of the expenditure have been aſcertained. Notwithſtanding I have called for the account diſburſements, and the balance of caſh, on the day Takoor Doſs was appointed, I have never been able to obtain either; beſides which, the ſaid Takoor Doſs, according to the plan, ought to have been Moktar Muſshreff: He has never been put in charge and confidence, which was before placed in him under his Excellency's adminiſtration, he has entirely loſt. In conſequence of the Treaſuries not being properly managed, large ſums are embezzled, though neceſſary eſtabliſhments are not provided for, whilſt lacks are ſquandered in uſeleſs expences. It is neceſſary a General Treaſurer ſhould be appointed, to whom all receipts of revenue ſhould be firſt paid, and afterwards diſtributed to the ſubordinate Treaſuries.

4th. Funds for the regular payment of the Vizier's perſonal expences are the firſt conſideration, It is neceſſary to do away the diſgrace ſuffered from the diſtreſs of the Vizier's houſehold, and irregular payment of his ſervants wages; and for this purpoſe, the ſums allotted for the ſupport of his houſehold and ſervants, ſhould be paid into the hands of a ſeparate Treaſurer. That the whole ſum ſhall be divided into twelve equal inſtallments, paid monthly by the ſaid Treaſurer. No payments to be made, except by the Vizier's orders, atteſted by the acting Miniſter, and that no perſon, holding offices in the Vizier's houſehold, ſhall be a Farmer of Revenue.

5th. Large ſums would be required to ſatisfy the liſt of Jagheerdars and Tuncauhdars. Owing to his Excellency's want of money, few are paid. The diſtreſs has been ſo great, that the Nabob's brothers, the women belonging to the Zennanahs of the late Vizier's, and the Nabob Burhaan ul Mulk, have been in want even of the neceſſaries of life; ſome of his Excellency's brothers have ſought a ſubſiſtence with other Chiefs. It is therefore neceſſary a ſeparate Treaſurer ſhould be appointed for the Jaghierdars and Tuncawhdars, and their penſions be paid monthly, according to the months of the Fuſſully year.

6th. It is certain that great ſums are embezzled under the head of army diſburſements. Many ſervants on the civil liſt enjoy conſiderable emoluments under this head; and there are no good troops exiſting; and ſhould their ſervices be

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be called for, 12,000 nor even 10,000 could be affembled. The few which exift have encreafing arrears; and many, claffed among the troops, have obtained fervice owing entirely to the favour and intereft of Mutfuddies, and the civil officers of Government. They are totally unfit for fervice. The keeping a ufelefs army, out of confideration to fuch people, is the worft of fyftems in Government. The cavalry have no fixed eftablifhment. For thefe feveral reafons there is no regularity or difcipline in the Vizier's army. Thofe perfons confidered as troops, fhould not act under the orders of any perfon, except their own Commanders, and fhould never follow in the fuite of any man. When I relinquifhed the Tarkfowar affignments, the acting Minifter promifed me, that their juft pay fhould be paid them monthly, and given into the hands of each trooper. The embezzlements, the troopers riding the Vizier's horfes, and other abufes in this corps, ought to have been corrected; but the pay was iffued as ufual, and the abufes continue. You will pleafe to furnifh me with a ftatement of Tipper Chund's office, fpecifying the particular duties of each department, and the expence attending the whole.

7th. The acting Minifter has repeatedly informed me, that Mufter Mafters have been deputed to every diftrict; neverthelefs, the embezzlements and frauds have not been communicated to me. It is requifite that you fhould, through Rajah Tipper Chund, inform me of the names of the Mufter Mafter at every ftation, and the refult of their enquiries.

8th. The fyftem of affignment fhould be abolifhed, except on account of the Company. The revenue to be depofited with the General Treafurer, who fhall every day give a ftatement of the bills he may receive.

9th. Robberies and murders are committed to an excefs in Lucknow; it is therefore neceffary to eftablifh the Phoufdarry Adaulut upon a refpectable footing.

10th. There fhould be an office of Aumeen eftaftlifhed, for the trial of civil caufes, difputed lands, and exactions made by Aumils.

11th. That civil and military trufts fhould not be united under the fame perfons.

12th. Whereas the above propofitions are agreeable to the arrangements ordered by the Governor General, the acting Minifter's office, as well as mine, depends on the execu- of them.

Tranflation

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Tranflation of an Agreement propofed to Hyder Beg Cawn by Mr. Briftow.

I engage to tranfact, agreeable to my inftructions, the affairs of both the Vizier's and the Honourable the Governor General's adminiftration, in participation and with the advice of the Nabob Amyr ul Dowla Hyder Beg Cawn Behader, and will never deviate in any point of fecrecy or friendfhip, fo long as the faid Amyr ul Dowla Hyder Beg Cawn Behadre fhall abide by the conditions of our reciprocal agreement. I will act by his advice in all affairs and tranfactions; and after having executed the Governor General's regulations, which he has directed folely for the benefit and advantage of his Excellency's affairs, and the good of humanity, I will reprefent his zeal, in the affiftance he may have afforded me, to the Honourable the Governor General, and obtain by every means in my power his confirmation in the office of the Naib. Wherefore thefe few words are written in the ftyle of an agreement.

Tranflation of a letter from Mr. John Briftow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 8th of Jummudy Uffauny, Higera, 1179.

On the 26th of Jemmadyulaurel, I had the pleafure to deliver to you the general plan, when you promifed to furnifh me with an anfwer in two days. On the 28th of the fame month I had the pleafure of feeing you, when you made enquiries concerning feveral points, and requefted a further delay of two days. I did not fee you again till the 4th inftant; again you promifed to deliver me your anfwer on the morrow. I neither faw you, however, the next day, or the day after that, to wit, the 5th or 6th inftant. On the 7th (yefterday) you further poftponed your anfwer till this day (the 8th). Thus, Sir, twelve days have elapfed. I am therefore to requeft that you will, in anfwer to this letter, be fo obliging as to fix pofitively fome one certain day to furnifh me with an anfwer to each particular article of the above mentioned plan.

Tranflation of Hyder Beg Cawn's Anfwer to the above, written the fame Day.

I have been favoured with your letter, pointing out to me the feveral delays which have occurred refpecting my anfwer to your general plan. [Alluding to the death of a child]. The misfortune which has lately befallen me is not unknown to you. To be expofed to fuch diftrefs is the common lot of humanity. With refpect to the plan propofed

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posed to be carried into execution at the commencement of the ensuing year, there is a difference in what you have been pleased to say, and in what you have have written to me on the subject. I am at your devotion.—Whatever you, Sir, have planned, begin it at any time, and in any manner; I am obedient to your orders.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 9th Jummady Ussauny.

I have received your letter in reply to mine of yesterday requesting you will fix on some day for furnishing me with a reply to several articles of the new plan. You inform me, that I have told you one thing, and have written to you another.—I am not, Sir, guilty of such inconsistency.—I have uniformly requested of you, that such parts of the plan as could be carried into execution without delay might be immediately executed, and the remainder postponed till the commencement of the new year. But it is most necessary every article should be deliberated on at this time, and every proper preparation made, and the arrangement of the several mahals determined upon, previous to the period allotted for its execution. Agreeably to your written engagement, I was to have received as *yesterday* your advice and opinion upon the several articles of the written plan I delivered to you. To what purpose then do you now mention to me a contradiction in my words and writings?—In affairs of such consequence, procrastination is impossible.—I am therefore compelled to repeat my request, that you will positively appoint some day, and furnish me with a complete answer on the subject above mentioned, that I may transmit it to the Honourable the Governor General.

Translation of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn, in Answer to the foregoing.

I have received your letter. I have formerly represented to you, and I now repeat it, that I am at your devotion.—In whatever mode shall seem best to you, commence your plan; no objection whatever shall be made by me. With respect to what I mentioned of the difference between your verbal and written instructions, it would ill become me to falsify the fact. [Alluding again to the death of his child.] I appeal to yourself, Sir, whether the excuse I alledged for the several delays was founded or not. Relative to the plan and arrangement, I make no objection; you, Sir, will adjust in the manner most agreeable to yourself. There is one most important article in the plan you have proposed—To bring forwards Rajah Soorut Sing, and transact all affairs

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fairs through him, and without a crime to abolish the Naib's office, is in reality to dispossess me of my post. I am obedient to your commands, and in every respect submit myself to your orders. My answer to the plan you have submitted to me is merely this—that you shall do in it what is most agreeable to yourself, I have no objection to make.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 10th Jummady Ussanny.

I have been favoured with your letter, in answer to mine, relative to the execution of the general plan heretofore submitted to your consideration. What you write, respecting your readiness to carry it into execution, is most agreeable to me; but I assure you it never entered into my imagination to dispossess you of your office, which you say is the concealed intention of abolishing the Naib's duftar. In all ages, and in all countries, where the shadow of good government has existed, the several departments have always been kept distinct, whilst the general superintendance has been the province of the Prime Minister; and conformably to this system will your influence extend through every department.

Translation of Mr. Bristow's Letter to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 12th of Jemmady Ussaunny.

I intended to transmit my proceedings concerning the general plan to the Governor, by this night's dawk; but at our interview to-day, you informed me, that the Dewan's office was, from the beginning, invested with authority, and you promised me an account of the particulars in writing, as an answer to the second articles of the said plan. I must trouble you to send in writing every circumstance of our conversation, respecting the Dewan's being in possession of his office. It is never my wish to make misrepresentations to the Governor; if there be any error in the second article above alluded to, candidly tell me of it.

Hyder Beg Cawn in Reply.

I have, in my former letter to you, explained my own situation, as well as the circumstances relative to the Naib's office. I to-day fully answered both your verbal and written enquiries concerning the Dewan, explaining the duties of that and the Naib's offices under this government, during the administration of Rajah Novel Roy, and Rajah Beny Behader. As to committing the particulars to writing, there are other circumstances, which I must state to you,

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you, which I ſhall have the pleaſure of doing to-morrow, and I will, after that, comply with your commands: The matter is briefly this; I am obedient to your orders, and in whatever form or manner you may direct me, I ſhall conform to your pleaſure, and not make any objections.

A true tranſlation.

(Signed) Wm. COWPER.

A true copy.

E. Hay,

Actg. Sec. to the Secret Dept.

Converſation between Mr. Briſtow and Rajah Jaggernaut, Son-in-law to Rajah Soorut Sing, at which Mr. Cowper was alſo preſent.

Mr. Briſtow. Have you poſſeſſion of the office of Dewan?

Rajah Jaggernaut. Raja Soorut Sing has had the name only for ſome five or ſix years ſince the adminiſtration of Hyder Beg Cawn.

B. Have the accounts been tranſmitted to you during that time regularly?

J. At the end of the year regularly, of thoſe diſtricts farmed by Rhajah ain ul Dine and Almaſs Ally Cawn—from ſome other places I may have occaſionally received them; from many I have received none.

B. To whom have the Aumils then delivered their accounts?

J. To the Miniſter, and Ticket Roy.

B. If you were in full poſſeſſion of your office, would not all accounts, without exception, be found in your Duftur?

J. Certainly.

B. Will you furniſh the general account, if called upon?

J. Whatever there are, will be furniſhed.

B. If you were really in the execution of your office, would not the ſeveral Aumils moſt implicitly obey any requiſition made to them by you for accounts?

J. Certainly.

B. Would ſuch requiſition, were you to make it, be obeyed by any one Aumil?

J. Certainly not.—I told Hyder Beg this morning, upon being aſked by him if I was in charge of my office, that I was not, and had received no regular accounts.

Being queſtioned particularly concerning the mode in which accounts were tranſmitted to the office, and of the nature of them, he replied, "That they were received entirely through Hyder Beg, or Raja Ticket Roy; neither Omeid Roy nor Jellaunaut, the Dewanny Naibs, had authority to correct the accounts. Arrangements "made

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"made with the Aumils at the beginning of the year, and "any subsequent charges, were never specified—those accounts only, upon which the final adjustment took place, "were deposited in the office."

Question. Did you not tell me, at Colonel Martin's, upon my asking you, Whether you wished that Soorut Sing should be put in possession of his office, that you certainly did, and it was an old promise made to you by me?

Answer. Did not I make the same request to you now?

Q. Will you give me in writing the manner in which the office is regulated at present?

A. What occasion is there to do that?

Q. Somebody must do it:—As Dewan, you are the proper person to call upon for the accounts;—if you cannot furnish them, you must assign sufficient reasons, or be made responsible. You will be required to explain these matters; and can you do it?

A. I must not be confronted with Hyder Beg Cawn.

Q. The establishment of the Dewan is expressly ordered:—It is not a contest between you and Hyder Beg Cawn:—I call upon you to be informed of the fact, whether the office be established or not.—The Dewan will be put in charge, and his life and honour will be protected, independently, by the Company, in the discharge of his duty.

A. I shall then be no longer under apprehensions: Rajah Soorut Sing is certainly not in possession of the authority of his office.

Rajah Jaggernaut, during the course of the conversation, upon every occasion expressed his fears of Hyder Beg Cawn's coming to the knowledge of it;—He, Hyder Beg, would at all events ask an explanation of him;—the Rajah desired to know what pretence he should suggest for the long interview he had with him.—I said, He must avow every word he had uttered.—He replied, That he would not dare to do it.— I answered, That Mr. Cowper had been witness to every syllable, and he would not prevaricate. I repeatedly apprized him that Soorut Sing would be called upon to state the real footing upon which he had held his office; and endeavoured to remove his fears with respect to Hyder Beg, holding forth protection to him, if he did his duty.—He then replied, "From the man who had been confined, "and corporally punished by Elluje Cawn; who had been "relieved from confinement, and his life saved by you; and "who is now daily plotting and complaining against you—"have I not every thing to fear?"

The Rajah was repeatedly also informed, that retrospection into Hyder Beg's conduct, or that of any other person in authority, was not intended.—Regularity in the management of the Vizier's affairs only, in time to come, was

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was intended, and he might be satisfied of not being led into disputes.—He was told to give what account he pleased of this conversation to Hyder Beg Cawn.

The Rajah observed, that in Suja Dowlah's time, orders on the Treasury, and assigments on the Aumils, were issued from the Dewanny Office.

We solemnly declare the above to be a faithful transcript of the conversation between Mr. Bristow and Rajah Jaggernaut, on the subject of the Dewan's Office.

JOHN BRISTOW,
Wm. COWPER.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, the 24th July, 1783.

Read three letters and enclosures from the Accountant General.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I herewith beg leave to submit to your inspection an account (No. 1.) stating the deficiency of a remittance made from the Resident's Treasury at Lucknow, in February 1782, by Bills of Exchange on Bankers at the Presidency; and request to be honoured with your commands, whether this deficiency, C. Rs. 1,30,338. 7. 7, shall be carried to the account of profit and loss on the general books, or what other account.—This question relates to the books now adjusting, for their close on the 30th April 1782. But as a matter of the same nature occurs in regard to the adjustment of the general books to be closed on the 30th ult. I now beg leave to state it in account No. 2, and request to be favoured with your commands respecting the disposal of this deficiency also.

I have the honour to be. &c,

Fort William, (Signed) JAs. MILLER,
Acct. General's Office, Actg. Acct. General.
12th May, 1783.

Remittance from Lucknow to the Presidency in Account current.

Dr.

To Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Feb. 1780. To amount of a remittance made by him to the Presidency, in bills, in this month, amounting to Lucknow Sicca rupees 20,00,000, or Oude Sicca rupees — 18,94,331 12 9

Batta

Batta 11 per cent.	2,08,376 8 —	
		21,02,708 4 9
Current rupees —		21,02,708 4 9

Fort William,
Accout. Genel's Office,
7th May, 1713.

Cr.

By Treasury.

Amount received into the Treasury, on account of the bills mentioned on the Dr. side of this account.

April 1782. Credited per Treasury Journal this month — —	9,62,800	0	0
Ditto per Do. Do. in the month —	6,26,638	11	11
Ditto Do. Do.	3,82,931	1	3
	19,72,369	13	2
By profit and loss, for loss by Exchange	1,30,338	7	7
Current rupees —	21,02,708	4	9

Errors excepted.

(Signed) JAs. MILLER,
Acting Accountant General.

Remittance from Lucknow to the Presidency in Account current.

Dr.

To the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sept. 1782. Amount remitted by him to the Presidency, in this month, in bills, amounting to Lucknow Sicca rupees 22,67,485. 2. 4, or

	21,47,684 9 10 0	
Batta 11 per Cent.	2,36,245 4 17 3	
		23,83,929 14 5
To Ditto Do. Do. Do. 6,50,000, or —	6,15,657 13 5	
Batta 11 per cent.	6,77,225 15 2	
		6,83,380 3 0
Nov. To Ditto Do. Do. in this month, Lucknow Sicca rupees 6,50,000 or — —	6,15,657 13 5	

Batta

Batta 11 per cent.	6,77,225	15	2			
				6,83,380	3	0
Current rupees				37,50,690	4	5

Fort William,
Account. Genl's Office,
7th May, 1783.

Cr.

By Treasury.

Amount received into the Treasury on account of the bills mentioned on the Dr. side of this account.

Dec. 1782. Credited per Treasury Journal, this month —	6,28,333	5	1			
Jan. 1783. Ditto, Do.	20,78,333	6	4			
Feb. Ditto, Do.	7,41,902	4	8			
				34,48,569	0	1
By profit and loss, for loss by Exchange				3,02,121	4	4
Current rupees — —				37,50,690	4	5

Errors excepted,
(Signed) JAs. MILLER,
Actg. Acct. Genl.

Sir,

Lucknow Sicca rupees 105. 9. 3. being equal to Fyzabad 16 sun. Sa. Rs. 100—120 of the former are equal to 113. 10. 7. of the latter, which, with their proper batta of 8. 9. 5½ per cent. are equal to currt. rupees 123. 6. 8. and this last sum is equal to Sicca rupees 106. 6. 4.; consequently Mr Bristow's engagement for remittances to Surat are at the rate of Calcutta Sicca rupees 106. 6. 4. per 100 Surat rupees.

By the same rule, 115 Lucknow Sicca Rs. are equal to Fyzabad 16 sun. Sa. Rs. 108. 14. 10. which, with its proper batta of 8. 9. 5½. is equal to Ct. Rs. 118. 4. 5. and this is equal to Sa. Rs. 101. 15. 5.; hence it appears, that the remittances procured on Braumpore cost Calcutta Sa. Rs. 101. 15. 5. per 100 of the Rs. current there.

The first of the above exchanges I find to be only the very trifling difference of two py. . . per cent. more than the exchange of 94 Surat Rs. per hundred MDabab or Calcutta rupees, this being equal to 6. 6. 2. per cent.

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By the Braumpore exchange it appears, that a small fraction above 98 of the rupees of that place, are receivable for 100 Calcutta Sicca rupees.

I am, &c.

18th June, 83. (Signed) JAs MILLER.

To James Peter Auriol, Esq. Secretary to the Honourable the Governor General and Council.

Sir,

In consequence of your verbal intimation, that the Honourable Board required to know the real value of the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupee, agreeably to the table of rates, and which I understand to mean comparative intrinsic value of the above species of rupees with the Calcutta Sicca rupee—I have the honour to enclose two accounts, exhibiting the difference between the arbitrary batta, which has hitherto been assigned to the Fyzabad 16 Sun rupees, and the proportional batta which their intrinsic value admits of, when compared with the Calcutta Sicca rupee reduced into current money.

The batta being reckoned at 11 per cent. neither operates to the benefit or disadvantage of either the Company or the Vizier, on all monies which are received and issued to the army, or for other purposes above: But the case differs when money is remitted to the Presidency; for, the proportional batta on the intrinsic value of the Fyzabad rupee being but 9. 2. 14. 1½ per cent. the difference between that and 11 per cent. is an over valuation, and therefore not chargeable thereon, either in adjusting accounts with the Vizier, or in reckoning the real value of Fyzabad rupees remitted by the resident. This deduction being made, the remainder, when compared with the receipts on this account, shews the actual expence or loss accruing from the remittance.

Fort William, I am, &c.
Acct. General's Office. (Signed) JAs MILLER.
19th June, 1783. Act. Acct. General.

Remittance from Lucknow to the Presidency in Account Current.

Dr.

To Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Feb. 1782. Amount of remittance made by him to the Presidency in bills in this month, amounting to Lucknow Sa. Rs. 20,00,000, or C. Sa. Rs	18,94,331	12	9
Batta 11 per cent.	2,08,376	8	0
C. Rs.	21,02,708	4	9

Deduct

Deduct.

Proportion of batta not chargeable on the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees, inclusive of the above 11 per cent. viz. 1. 13. 5. 2¼; the proportional batta on the Fyzabad rupee, agreeable to its intrinsic comparative value with the Calcutta Sicca rupee, as determined by the Mint and Assay Masters, being no more than 9. 2. 14. 1 ½ per cent. — —	37,789 10 0
	20,64,918 10 9
Current rupees	20,64,918 10 9

Fort William,
Account. General's Office,
17th June, 1783.

Cr.

By Treasury.

Amount received into the Treasury on account of the bills mentioned on the Dr. side of this account.	
April, 1782. Credited per Treasury journal this month — —	9,62,800 0 0
May. Do. — — ditto	6,26,638 11 11
June. Do. — — ditto	3,82,931 1 3
	19,72,369 13 2
By profit and loss, loss by exchange	92,548 13 7
Current rupees	20,64,918 10 9

Errors excepted.
(Signed) JAMES MILLER,
Actg. Acct. Genl.

Remittance from Lucknow to the Presidency in Account Current.

Dr.

To Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sept. 1782. Amount remitted by him to the Presidency, this month, in bills, amounting to Lucknow Sicca rupees 22,67,485 2 4, or C. Rs.	21,47,684 9 10 0

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	Do.	do.	6,50,000 0 0	6,15,657	13	5	0
Nov.	Do.	do.	6,50,000 0 0	6,15,657	13	5	0
			C Sa. Rs.	33,79,000	4	0	0
			Batta, 11 per cent. —	3,71,690	0	8	3
				37,50,690	4	5	0

Deduct.

Proportion of batta not chargeable on the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees, inclusive of the above 11 per cent. viz. 13. 5. 2 ½; the proportional batta on the Fyzabad rupee, agreeably to its intrinsic comparative value with the Calcutta Sicca rupee, as determined by the Mint and Assay Masters, being no more than 9. 2. 14. 1½. per cent. — 67,406 15 5 0

	36,83,283	5	0	
Current rupees	36,83,283	5	0	

Fort William,
Account. General's Office,
17th June, 1783.

Cr.

By Treasury.

Amount received into the Treasury on account of the bills mentioned on the Dr. side of this account.

Dec. 1782.	Credited per Treasury journal this month	—	—	6,28,333	5	1
Jan. 1783	Do.	—	ditto	20,78,333	6	4
Feb.	Do.	—	ditto	7,41,902	4	8
				34,48,569	0	1
By profit and loss, for loss by exchange				2,34,714	4	11
			Current rupees	36,83,283	5	0

Errors excepted.
(Signed) JAs MILLER,
Actg. Acct. Genl.

As part of the difference stated in the two last accounts is only an ideal loss, proceeding from the difference between the arbitrary valuation of the Fyzabad rupee in accounts,

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count, at 11 per cent. better than current rupee, and the intrinsic value of the Fyzabad specie, as rated by the Assay Master's table of rates, it can form no just claim on the Vizier.

Ordered, therefore, that this difference be adjusted by writing off the amount to profit and loss: but that the Vizier's account be debited for the actual loss proceeding from the deficiency between the amount received and the sum credited the Nabob, at the standard batta fixed by the table of Assay.

Secret Consn.
24th July.

24th July, 1783.

Governor General.

I complain to the Board of the disrespect which has been shewn to it, and disobedience to its commands, by Mr. Bristow. Six complete weeks have elapsed since he acknowledged the receipt of the orders of the 29th of May, which required him to reply to the charges preferred against him by the Nabob of Oude.—To these he has not yet replied, but either remains in the possession of an usurped despotism, scandalous to this Government permitting it, or treats its authority with an insolent and presuming indifference, by a silence equally culpable, whether he is innocent or guilty of the facts of which he has been accused, or of the criminality imputed to them.

Perhaps Mr. Bristow may wish to avail him of the principle, which forbids that any man shall be condemned unheard, to withhold his defence until he shall have either exceeded the period which has been so repeatedly portended for the close of the present Government, or until he shall have concerted other means for eluding the effect of an enquiry.—In the mean time, the justice of the Board is liable to be arraigned by suffering such delays: it is now four months since the Nabob Vizier transmitted his grievances to me, and more than three since they were formally made known to the Board.

On these grounds, I hope the Board will agree with me in the resolution of bringing this business to a decision, without suffering it to depend longer on the pleasure of Mr. Bristow; and that they will allow me to bring it before their notice for that purpose on Monday next.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true copy.

E. Hay,

Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

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Consn. 28th July.

28th July, 1783.

Governor General,

Conformably to the declaration made and recorded by me in consultation of the 24th instant, I now move, that Mr. Bristow, for disrespect to the Board, and disobedience of the letter written to him by the Board on the 29th of May, and acknowledged by him on the 13th June, in having to this time avoided or neglected to reply to the same, be removed and recalled from his station and office at Lucknow.

I also move, That as the Nabob of Oude, in his letter received on the 7th April last, and laid before the Board on the 21st of the same month, has desired that Messrs. Bristow and Cowper, the actual Resident and Deputy appointed for the transaction of the Company's affairs at his Court, may be recalled from thence; and that he may be allowed "the exercise of discretional power for the management of his country, and the payment of the "Company's money or debt;" and has engaged, that on these considerations he will pay the full amount of whatever shall be due to the Company, both of the past and growing debt, in such manner as the Board shall prescribe; the office of Resident at the Court of the Nabob of Oude, with that of the deputy, and other subordinate parts of the same establishment, excepting the office of Accountant, be dissolved; and the Nabob of Oude, and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn, made jointly responsible, according to the terms of their letters, as set forth in the extracts hereto subjoined, for the payment of the sums due, and which may become due to the Company for the present and ensuing year Fussulee, ending in September, 1784.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true copy.

E. Hay,

Actg, Sec. to the Secret Dept.

28th July, 1783.

The Secretary begs leave to inform the Board, that he has within these two days received a private letter from Mr. Bristow, dated 16th instant, which mentions, that "his indisposition has prevented him from writing or an-"swering the complaints so soon as he ought, but that "his letter would be dispatched to-morrow or next day at "furthest, he hoped."

Ordered, That the Governor General's minute be sent in circulation, for the consideration of the Members of the Board.

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The Governor General informs the Board, that he has also brought a continuation of the letter which he has received from the Vizier and Hyder Beg Cawn, and desires that they may be sent in circulation, and copies transmitted to Mr. Bristow for his answer to them; but that they may not be considered as forming any part of the present question, being totally independent of it.

Extract from a Letter of Hyder Beg Cawn's to the Honourable the Governor General. Received 7th April, 1783.

Relying on your goodness, his Highness has requested the removal of Mr. Bristow, and the grant of discretional authority to him in the management of his country, and for the payment of the Company's monies. If you should be graciously disposed to comply with his request, and at the same time, so far to favour me as to appoint me, from yourself, to the management of affairs here, agreeably to the proposals made to you by his Highness, both respecting the sums remaining due on Teep and on Mahajin's bills, and with regard to the present year 1190 Fussulee, and for the ensuing year Fussalee 1191, in any manner you shall please to direct, I will engage, in obedience to your orders, to remit the same to you, kist by kist, in bills, and as much thereof as shall be necessary for the payment of the Company's troops in this quarter, so much, on receipt of your orders, I will pay on the spot, to such Commanding Officer of troops as you shall please to direct. As I was originally raised from the dust by your hand, and am debtor to you for my rank and reputation, so now also, aided by your favour and protection, by your patronage and support, I shall be enabled to effect these objects. If you shall please to honour me with the appointment, as your particular and immediate dependant, with God's assistance, I will not be deficient in conducting the affairs of the Company's Surcar, or in obedience to your commands.

Extract from the Navaub Vizier's Letter to the Honourable Governor General. Received 7th April, 1783.

I am ready and willing to pay the Company's monies. I intreat, as a favour, that you will recall Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, and permit me the exercise of discretional power for the management of my country, and the payment of the Company's monies. I will cause payment of those monies to be made through the hands of my Ministers, in the manner hereafter mentioned:

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That is to say—Whereas Mr. Bristow has declined taking bills from the Mahajins, for the balance of Teep for 26 lacks given by them, and has taken the Jaidauds assigned to those Mahajins into his own hands, and declared that he himself will collect the amount, and remit it to the Company's Treasury; the truth of which you may ascertain from the Mahajins, who have given Teep, and who declare themselves ready to grant bills for the same, if put in possession of the Jaidauds originally assigned them. When your orders, establishing my authority for the management of my country, and the payment of the money, shall arrive, and Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper be recalled from hence, I will procure bills to be granted by those Mahajins, to the amount of the balance of those Teep, and transmit them to you; and whatever sums may remain due on the bills for 26 lacks, granted by Gopaul Doss Sahoo, from whom Mr. Bristow has taken by violence my Minister's Tummussook, and substituted his own in the place thereof, I will take back Mr. Bristow's Tummussook from the Gomastahs of the aforementioned Sahoo, and cause it to be returned to Mr. Bristow, and for what shall remain due to the said Sahoo, I will cause such good and substantial securities to be given to his said Gomastahs on the spot, that no cause for suspicion or doubt shall remain; and with respect to the present year Fussulee 1190, and the Jaidauds for the Company's money, settled and received by Mr. Bristow, and for the amount of which he has taken Tummussooks from the Aumils of the Jaidauds, let him be directed to deliver up the Tummussooks of the said Aumils to me, and whatever sums may remain due from the said Jaidauds, and payable by the said Aumils, the same shall be remitted to you in bills, kist by kist, by my Ministers; whatever sums you shall direct to be paid here from the amount thereof, for the use of the Company's troops, the same shall be paid here monthly to the Commanding Officer of those troops.

And for the ensuing year 1191 Fussulee, whatever plan or mode you shall be pleased to dictate and determine, that plan or mode, on your informing me thereof, shall be received and strictly follwed; I will not object to, or hesitate to fulfil your pleasure in any respect whatever. If you will please, as a mark of your friendship, to recall Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, and confer upon me discretional authority for the management of my country, and for the payment of the Company's monies, with God's assistance, I will cause those monies to be furnished and remitted by my Ministers, agreeably to what I have written. If any defect or deficiency shall happen, you will

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on the instant take whatever measures you shall think proper.

In the Navaub Vizier's own hand.—I hope, my friend, from your kindness, that I shall be delivered from these distresses, and obtain my request.

A true extract.

E. HAY,

Actg. Sec. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Honourable Governor General and Council, in their Secret Department, 31st July, 1783.

Considered the Governor General's motions, recorded in consultation the 28th instant.

1st. For the removal of Bristow from Lucknow; and,

2dly. That the office of Resident, and its dependencies, except the Accountantship, be dissolved; and the Nabob, and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn, be jointly responsible (according to the terms of their letters to the Governor General) for the payment of the sums due, and which may become due, to the Company for the present and ensuing year Fussolee, ending in September, 1784.

Mr. Stables.—I cannot assent to the first question, until I see what Mr. Bristow has to say in his justification. I object to the second question, and shall assign my reasons hereafter.

Mr. Macpherson.—I cannot assent either to the 1st or 2d proposition, and shall give my reasons at a future period.

The Secretary accordingly received the following minute from Mr. M'Pherson, which he circulated to the other Members of the Board:

Mr. Macpherson.

I cannot condemn Mr. Bristow, or any servant, till I am convinced of his delinquency. He has been ill, and he may have many and strong arguments to plead for the delay of sending his answers.

As to the proposition for removing the Residency from Oude intirely, and leaving to the Vizier and his Minister the powers which they request, it is a measure of critical magnitude, nor can I consent to it without full security for the Company's interest, and the peace of our frontiers.

Arrangements to secure both must be maturely and well concerted; and we ought to attend particularly to the change in our situation from the re-establishment of the French in India.

Mr.

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Mr. Wheler delivers in the following minute:

Mr. Wheler.

In a minute I delivered at the Board on the 22d May, I expressed a wish that we should enter upon an immediate enquiry into the state of the Nabob of Oude's country, for the purpose of determining how far the orders which had been given to Mr. Bristow, on his appointment to Oude in September 1782, and which have since produced such serious consequences, are applicable to the present state of that country, as well as for the further purpose of explaining and amending such parts of these orders as, either from an alteration in circumstances, or other causes, are no longer considered to be in union with the interests of the Company and the Nabob. Such an enquiry into the state of Oude, and such a revision of the orders in question, I think more expedient and more necessary at this time, than when I before recommended it, as the propositions now submitted to the Board by the Governor General do not only relate to the conduct of the Resident and his Assistant, but involve a great political question respecting the future connection between the Nabob and the East India Company. It appears therefore indispensably necessary that we should receive the most complete and satisfactory information on those points, which have led the Governor General to so material and important a change in the system which has been laid down and established for the management of the Company's concerns with the Nabob Vizier.

Thus circumstanced, and now possessing information of the consequences to which Mr. Bristow's removal will lead, I must beg leave to observe, that as the Resident stands charged by the Nabob and his Minister with the usurpation of an undue authority, and as he is called upon by this Government to answer those charges, it will, in my opinion, be highly improper to shift the ground of those charges to that of disrespect to this Board, for having delayed to reply to them; which, I should have conceived, was guarded against by his letter to the Board, dated 23d June, urging, as an excuse for not immediately answering them, his confinement to his room from illness; and by a subsequent letter to the Secretary, to the same effect.

However ill prepared I may feel myself to decide upon so momentous a question as is now, for the first time, introduced in the latter part of the Governor General's minute, I shall not scruple to venture an opinion, that if ever there was a period at which withdrawing the influence of the Company from the Nabob of Oude's Court, and leaving both

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both him and his country to the mercy of his Ministers, was attended with peculiar hazard to the interests of the Company and the Nabob, that period is the present. I cannot therefore (impressed as I am with this belief, and dreading the alarming consequences likely to follow the adoption of such a measure, from the present disordered and unsettled state of the Nabob's country, and the unfitness of his Minister to govern it) consent to accept of the proposal now offered by the Nabob for the liquidation of his actual and growing debt to the Company, or to abolish the office of Resident at his Court, with that of the deputy, and other subordinate parts of the same establishment, excepting the office of Accountant, as recommended in the Governor General's minute.

Governor General.—It is not necessary that my opinion should follow, as it is expressed in the terms of the questions which I have proposed. I shall have something to say upon the subject of Mr. Wheeler's minute.—Probably the minutes of the other Members of the Board may require from me a reply: I hope not; but shall reserve what I have further to say upon them, or upon the general subject, to another occasion.

Resolved, that both questions be carried in the negative.

A true copy.
E. HAY,
Actg. Sec. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 11th August, 1783.

Read the following letter from General Stibbert.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to inclose, for your information, a copy of a letter which I a few days since received from Colonel Sir John Cumming, informing me of his having recalled the detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Knudson from Anopshire, and of his being about to dispatch, in compliance with a requisition from the Vizier, two regiments into Rohilcund, for the protection of that province.

I must observe to the Board, that I have no advice of any internal commotions in that part of the country; and there can be no apprehension of an invasion from the Seiks, or any other power, during the rains, or whilst the Ganges is unfordable; and therefore, suppose that this detachment is required to assist the Aumils in the collection of the revenues.

Fort William, I have the honour to be, &c.
18th July, 1783. (Signed) Gt. STIBBERT.

Sir,

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Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of my having recalled the detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, and that they are now on their return.

In compliance with a requisition for two regiments to be stationed during the rains in Rohilcund, I have ordered thither the 9th regiment of Sepoys, and four companies from Colonel Knudson's detachment.—The four companies are to remain there till the junction of the detachments now out on service shall enable me to complete the two regiments, as required by the Vizier.

I have the honour to be, &c.

June 25th, 1783. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING.
Futty Ghur. Colonel.

A true copy.
(Signed) Wm. Scott.
Secy. to the Commr. in Chief.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Colonel Sir John Cumming having assented to my requisition, made conformable to the acting Minister's advice, in the absence of the Nabob Vizier, for the detaching two regiments of Sepoys to canton in the province of Rohilcund, during the periodical rains, I have the honour to inform you, that the day before yesterday I received information from Major Cook, the officer commanding the detachment, of his arrival at Barelly. My reasons for making the requisition, I shall now take the liberty to submit to your consideration.

Owing to the drought during the season for the cultivation of the rubby crops, and the violent and oppressive administration of Khowja Ain ul Dein, the province of Rohicund is reduced to a state of misery, which requires every exertion of the Vizier's government to relieve. The Honourable Company's interests are closely connected in effecting this very desirable object.—The balance due on account of my assignment was sixteen lacks ninety-two thousand three hundred and thirteen rupees, three annas, and six pice; and I could not obtain any satisfaction from Khowja Ain ul Deen for the payment of it.—The Honourable Board are already in possession of sufficient facts to raise doubts of Khowja Ain ul Deen's fidelity; and it appeared to me a measure of absolute necessity to station a sufficient force in that province to secure as considerable a part as possible of the balance, and likewise to be ready to repel, or at least guard against, the attempts which he might make to involve

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involve the country in anarchy and confusion when his dismission should take place.—It is with the utmost concern, Gentlemen, I also inform you, that the revenue of Rohilcund is reduced near half during the administration of Khoja Ain ul Deen, and I have great reason to apprehend, any measures which can now be adopted, will not admit of a greater sum being collected next year, than from thirty-five to forty lacks, when, five years ago, that province yielded sixty-four lacks. The inclosed letter from Mahomed Cazim is a corroboration of the fact.

In order to furnish your Honourable Board with just information of the distracted state of the Government, it is only a few days since three battalions of the Vizier's troops mutinied, and left their station at the Gauts of Darranegur, where they were posted for the defence of the frontier. One battalion marched to Lucknow, and the ringleaders were dismissed the service by his Highness:—The other two battalions proceeded to the neighbourhood of Barelly; the Aumil having requested Major Cook's assistance, he quelled the mutiny, and the troops have since returned to their duty.—The cause of this commotion arose from the large arrears of pay which were due to the men.

Barelly was recommended by the Minister for the station of the detachment, from being the residence of the Aumil, and most convenient for supporting the authority of Government, in the event of Khowja Ain ul Deen's shewing any disposition to create disturbances.

Colonel Sir John Cumming has made reference to me concerning the building of temporary cantonments at Barelly; he observes, that "erecting shelter will not only "be of the greatest service, in saving the arms and stores "from destruction or damage by the inclemency of the "weather, and preserving the health of the Europeans "(serjeants and artillery men) but will also be a very great "saving of expence to his Excellency the Vizier. If can-"tonments are erected, it will no longer be necessary to "to continue the native troops in full batta.—This article "will be a saving of nearly seven thousand rupees a month, "a sum almost equal to what will be expended in building "the proposed cantonments.—On the contrary, if no "buildings are erected, and the troops remain in the field, "he does not see the possibility of putting them on half "pay batta."

I returned for answer, That as the expences of this detachment did not concern my office, I had referred the matter to your Honourable Board for decision.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
9th July, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy. E. Hay, Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

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Translation of the Extract of a Letter from Mahomed Cazim to Mr. Bristow, dated 20th Rujub, 1197 Hegira.

I cannot, consistently with my attachment to you, conceal certain circumstances from your knowledge, and I must therefore plainly inform you, that the country of Rohilcund is ruined and desolated, and the inhabitants are in a most wretched situation. In districts where there was formerly one lack fifty thousand, there is now only ten thousand rupees collected, and even that sum the Ryots will not have the means of paying in future. If the Aumils be called upon to attend to Lucknow, and Aumeens be deputed to the spot, and there remain for a year, the reduction of the revenue, and the desolation of the country will then be known. Even now, arbitrary fines are levied; corporal punishment is exercised upon those who are suspected of possessing wealth, and they are compelled to part with it. It is in no respect intended to cherish the people, and improve the cultivation of the country in future. Whatever was incumbent on me, out of attachment to you, that I have represented.

On the receipt of your letter, I called together many people, who were well versed in the business, and had held employments in this country, and I demanded of them to what amount could be collected in Rohilcund for the ensu- year. I understood from them, "that if it was intended "at the presence to consider the good of the people, and "the cultivation of the country, that thirty-five lacks of "rupees could be collected, including duties and every "article of revenue. Written engagements must be en- "tered into with the Ryots, for their security. Should "the largest possible sum be collected, it would not amount "to forty lacks, and this even would depend upon the Au- "mils being immediately put in charge."

A true translation.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy of the translation.
E. Hay,
Acting Secretary to the Secret Department.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Gentlemen of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

In obedience to your commands of the 29th of May, I have now the honour to transmit you my reply to the complaints preferred against me by his Highness the Vizier, and his

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his Minister Hyder Beg Khan. Much hath been anticipated by my former communications to the Governor General, and to your Honourable Board, in which I stated fully and regularly the conduct I pursued in discharge of my duty, and in obedience to my instructions—a conduct which I foresaw and predicted would assuredly subject me to the resentment and to the accusations of the Minister.

Having shewn a steady determination to effect, if possible, the salutary purposes of my appointment, and, in this view, having uniformly regulated my conduct by my instructions, I submit, Gentlemen, whether it is I alone whom the Minister insults, when he characterizes me as an idiot and a madman—as planing the wildest projects, and endeavouring to accomplish them by the absurdest management.

In the course of my former communications, I have frequently had occasion to request your attention to the treaty of Chunar, to the instructions to my predecessor and myself, and to other points of record, as well in defence of the measures I had pursued, as in explanation of the intrigues and oppositions of the Minister: It is with extreme reluctance, therefore, that I venture to trouble you with a continuation of such references; but the necessity of my own vindication, and the respect I owe to you not to suffer accusations against me, for a literal obedience to your commands, to pass without the fullest refutation, will, I trust, excuse a new appeal to them here; as also the introduction of the following extracts from the Governor General's correspondence with the late Resident Mr. Middleton, dated the 26th December, 1781, and the 3d January, 1782.—

"I have waited thus long in hopes of hearing that some "progress had been made in the execution of the plan "which I concluded with the Nabob in September last.— "I do not find that any step towards it has yet taken place, "though three months are elapsed; and little more than "that period did appear to me requisite to have accom-"plished the most essential parts of it, and to have brought "the whole into train.—This tardiness, and the opposition "prepared to the only decided act yet undertaken, have a "bad appearance.—Again I have clearly explained my in-"tention to be, that the first receipts of the current reve-"nues should furnish the stipulated amount of the Nabob's "private expences; that the residue should be applied to the "discharge of his military and civil expences; that his assign-"ments for the company's debt, and other charges defray-"ed by them, should remain as usual; and that the whole "of the excesses of the jagheers should be appropriated to "same account.—I require to more; nor can I add either "explanation or comment on the instructions which have "been originally given to you, that can be more clearly

"expressed

" expressed, or more fully, than the words of the original " text. I now refer you back to the agreement concluded " by me with the Nabob, and my instructions delivered to " you in consequence of it.—These are to be your sole " guides; nor do I mean, by any thing which I have since " written, whether this or my former letter, to revoke or " change a tittle of what is written in them.—On these I " ground the whole of your present responsibility, except " what I have written concerning the additional claims " made on the Begums, and which I consider as a virtual " part of my formal instructions."—After this, Gentlemen, had I continued passive at the court of Oude, had I failed to urge points thus strictly enjoined me by my instructions, what charge might not have been exhibited against me? To what suspicions should I not have been exxposed?. What censures might I not have incurred?—With respect to the measures which the Minister so loudly reprobates, no alternative was left me; I was directed in the most peremptory language to execute them; and, as I have shewn, all future reference on the subject was in a manner forbidden. Yet I did not fail uniformly to apprize the Honourable Governor General and your Board of my intentions; and these informations were submitted to you early, in the express purpose of leaving my conduct still open to your correction.—Gentlemen, you are too just not to allow the force of this observation.

My duty has already subjected me to the disagreeable task of swelling your records with representations of the mischiefs of Hyder Beg Khawn's administration; it is a subject not easily exhausted, and the documents which accompany this address will perhaps more clearly elucidate it than even those I have already had the honour to transmit to you. It is well worthy of remark, that many whom the wisdom and justice of Sujah Dowlah had condemned to exile and to punishment, have, since the accession of his son, been raised to the first honours and preferments. The choice of weak or flagitious characters to rule over the several districts, and command the lives and properties of the inhabitants of Owde, naturally begat terror and distrust in the minds of the people. and at length compelled many to the desperate resolution of quitting the country. Let any man travel through the Vizier's dominions, he will see villages deserted, the lands uncultivated, the little property remaining transferred from the Owners to their oppressors; let him visit Rohilcund, such a scene of misery and devastation will present itself, as must satisfy all his doubts, and render further enquiry superfluous. This noble province, seven years since yielding an annual revenue of 60 lacks of rupees, is now unable to discharge the nominal jumma of

45 lacks

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45 lacks, at which it was settled last year. The author of its ruin is Khaje Ein Uddeen, the intimate and bosom friend of Hyder Beg Khan. The other provinces are hardly in a more enviable situation. So rapid a decline is perhaps without example in the history of any country. If however we look back and reflect, we shall find no representation of grievance from the Prince, no complaint from the Minister, during the whole progress of the fall; every thing ran on to ruin quiet and uninterrupted, and, could I have been charmed to silence, might have continued to do so, till the general destruction should at once proclaim both cause and effect. Regardless of my duty, and your instructions, had I not opposed the minister, in his course of rapine and oppression, I might have commanded the lavish applauses of the man who now comes forward as my accuser. Under these circumstances, far from regretting the bitter invectives, the little malice, and the endless falsehoods by which Hyder Beg Khan has attempted to asperse my character, and misrepresent my conduct, I consider them as distinctions highly honourable, and as testimonies of having, in the midst of temptation to depart from it, discharged my duty to the utmost of my power. If the situation of the Nabob of Owde were any longer equivocal, if the servile and helpless bondage in which he is held by his Minister were not generally understood, I should perhaps find myself not a little embarrassed by the declarations of a Prince, which, if founded, would leave me without a claim to the sentiments or the manners of a Gentleman: Happily, that he is no free agent, has long ceased to be a question; and I am therefore little apprehensive of incurring the censure of your Honourable Board, for considering all the letters, all the accusations, as the production of the Minister alone, notwithstanding that some of them have the seeming sanction of his Highness's name. The unprincely style which the unhappy Assuph Addowla hath, on this occasion, been compelled to adopt, gives us indeed no idea of the dignified resentment of insulted Sovereignty; though, considered as an act of resignation to the will of his Minister, it affords a stricking example of the condition of unresisting submission and hopeless degradation, to which sometimes even Princes are reduced. To illustrate this subject yet further, I will beg leave to contrast the sentiments contained in the letters to which his Highness's seal is affixed, with the following brief history.—When the regulation of his household was first in agitation, I waited upon him, accompanied by two Gentlemen, now at Lucknow, to represent to him the expediency of the measure. I found the Vizier convinced and satisfied of the necessity of a reform; at the same time it could not escape me, that he was

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ſtrongly impreſſed with apprehenſions of the diſpleaſure of his Miniſter, and, under this impreſſion, I could only obtain from him, that he would inform me of his final reſolution in three days; or, in other words, when he had learnt from Hyder Beg Khan how far he was to comply. In ſupport of the arguments I uſed to convince his Highneſs of the miſchiefs of delay, I repreſented to him, that, with a revenue of near three crores of rupees, every department of his government was involved in confuſion and beggary; that the animals of his ſtables were often in want of food, his army in arrears, the penſions to his relations unpaid, and even himſelf not ſeldom aſſociated in the diſtreſs and poverty which ſurrounded him. I obſerved to him, that this general diſorder was more extraordinary, as his annual diſburſements to the Company, and the monies appropriated to his immediate expences, did not exceed 140 lacks of rupees; and I requeſted he would do me the favour to inform me how the remainder, a ſum equal to a crore and ſixty lacks, was diſpoſed. Here his Highneſs ſeemed to awake to all the ignominy of his ſituation; the genuine feelings of his heart prevailed, and, with great emotion, he demanded why I ſought information on theſe ſubjects from a being ſo deſtitute as he was?—that I ſhould addreſs myſelf to Hyder Beg Khan, who had been for years the Sovereign Lord of theſe countries, and had appropriated their treaſures at his will. Neither does the truth of what I have here related depend upon my affirmation alone; the Gentlemen who attended me heard and can avouch it.—In ſhort, the utmoſt attention to his Highneſs has marked all my intercourſe with him. The friendly terms on which we have lived, and the evidence of the Gentlemen on the ſpot, and witneſſes to it, are better proofs of the propriety of my conduct, and of my reſpect for him, than letters dictated by an artful Miniſter, and written under the moſt tyrannical influence that ever was eſtabliſhed, by a crafty and wicked ſervant, over a weak and unſuſpecting Maſter. If I have endeavoured to regulate the Vizier's œconomy, that he might no longer depend for his daily ſubſiſtance upon the bounty of his Miniſter; if, to ſave the lives and ſecure the properties of his ſubjects, I wiſh to ſee magiſtrates appointed who might watch over and preſerve to them thoſe valuable bleſſings; if I judged it highly important not to ſuffer Hyder Beg Khan to hold collectively and without diviſion, as he now does, all the offices, all the power, and all the treaſures of the Nabob's dominions; and if, to correct theſe evils, I propoſed to his Highneſs the remedies preſcribed by my inſtructions—it was not that in all or any of theſe inſtances I ſought to uſurp his power or inſult his perſon; I acted in obedience to my orders,

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and in the fulleſt perſuaſion that nothing could eſtabliſh his rights more firmly than thoſe wiſe and ſalutary meaſures, ſo neceſſary for the reſtoration of his dignity and the welfare of his people. I proceed now, Gentlemen to a regular examination of the charges themſelves; in preferring which it is ſelf-evident the Miniſter had in view, not only my removal, but the total annihilation of this office, the ſubverſion of the Engliſh influence at this Court, and the confirmation and perpetuity of his own pernicious power and authority.

For the ſake of perſpicuity, I have thought it beſt to recapitulate the ſeveral paragraphs of Hyder Beg Khan's addreſs to the Governor General, and to arrange my anſwers to them reſpectively in the ſame order. And to avoid as much as poſſible a repetition of circumſtances which have been already fully diſcuſſed, I beg I may be permitted to make my letters to the Honourable Board of the 21ſt January, the 13th May, and the 6th of June, a part of my preſent defence, and to refer to them accordingly.

I have the honour to be, with unfeigned reſpect,

Lucknow, Gentlemen,

30th July, 1783. your moſt obedient, and

very humble ſervant,

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,

Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

P. S. In the copy of the firſt addreſs from the Vizier to the Governor General, tranſmitted a No. in the Honourable Board's letter, dated 29th May laſt, to the Reſident is the following paſſage and reference: [" Vide paper of ex- " from Palmer's letters, No. 11. extract 2."]

" Such is my own condition, that Mr. Briſtow throttles " me, as it were, in order to force the morſel from my " mouth." [See encloſure, No. 9.]

It would ſeem (as is elſewhere the caſe in the ſame letter) that the papers or extracts here referred to, ſhould contain matter either explanatory or corroborative of the text; they are not, however, found included in any of the Nos. which I have had the honour to receive; and to this cauſe alone, ſhould they comprize aught of importance, I humbly hope my ſilence reſpecting them will be attributed.

J. B.

Reſt.

A true copy.

E. Hay,

Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

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From Hyder Beg Khan to the Honourable the Governor General.—Received March 28th, 1783.

Usual introduction.

Par. 1st. At the beginning I was raised by the hand of your favour; and from that period to the present you have uniformly protected my honour, and by your countenance conferred respectability upon me. Assisted by such patronage and support, and deeming my fidelity and attachment to the Company, and to the Nabob Vizier, as duties which admitted of no distinction or separation, I have, as is well known to you, unremittingly persevered in exerting my services for the benefit of both Surcars.

The treaty of Chunar has hitherto answered no one purpose for which it was concluded, either to the Nabob or to the Company; the several articles, without exception, being at this hour in the same forwardness, with respect to their accomplishment, as they were on the 23d of September, 1781, or on the day of its ratification. The revenues of the Nabob have, in the course of this man's seven years ministry, fallen one third in the annual value. The Honourable the Governor General has repeatedly censured his conduct in the severest terms, and threatened him with his heaviest displeasure, if he did not instantly reform it; yet Hyder Beg Khan opens his address to the Governor General in the following words: "I have, "*as is well known to you*, "*unremittingly* persevered "in exerting my services "for the benefit of both "Sircars." And in using this language, he has not made a declaration which carries falsehood upon the face of it, but with the most unblushing confidence has appealed to the Governor General for the truth of his assertions. Having shewn so utter a contempt for truth, and so little respect for the first character in this country, I am not surprized that, on my subject, he has observed

served neither candour or moderation. At the same time, Gentlemen, as the ipse dixit of the Minister is the single evidence upon which, for the most part, he has rested the proof of his accusations, it is highly important to me to request your attention to a circumstance like this, which is sufficient to destroy at once all opinion of his veracity.

Par. 2d. At this period, and for some time past, various circumstances and events have come to pass, which, in consequence of strict injunctions, that no one shall presume to inform you of the state of affairs here, my apprehensions have hitherto deterred me from communicating, hoping, at the same time, that you might learn them from public report, and that the necessary remedies would be applied; or that Mr. Bristow would himself adopt more favourable dispositions. As neither of these events has happened, I see no remedy or expedient whatever, except in a representation to you of all that is passed; and am therefore necessitated to make this communication.

Par. 2d. This, Gentlemen, is also an assertion without proof; I crave permission to oppose it by a flat denial; and, in addition to what I have said in the preceding article, I beg it may be remembered, that I have never yet been convicted of deliberate falsehood.

Par. 3d. In consequence of the receipt of your frequent and reiterated informations and declarations, both to his Highness and to me, by letters immediately from yourself, and also through the medium of Major Palmer, who, returning from Cawnpore, did personally, at various interviews, and

Par. 3d. To prevail upon his Highness to fulfil the conditions of the Treaty of Chunar, was the chief object of my appointment.—Your records, Gentlemen, will bear witness to the reality of my exertions. Had they been seriously seconded by the Minister, is it conceivable they should still prove vain and abortive?

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repeatedly through the medium of others, communicate your sentiments respecting obedience to the directions and attention to the satisfaction of Mr. Bristow, declaring, that in the firmest reliance on his conduct, you had vested with him ample powers in the arrangement and regulation of the Nabob's affairs, and as your chosen and selected friend, had appointed him to the execution of this office—that we should not deviate in the minutest degree from his directions, or in the smallest point neglect or disregard his pleasure, and that we should pay the same attention to his satisfaction as we would to yours. In consequence of the foregoing, as his Highness and myself regard an implicit respect and obedience to your advice and directions as the first and only objects of our attention; therefore, agreeably to your commands communicated by a letter, and by Major Palmer, I have in every particular obeyed the directions of Mr. Bristow, from the hour of his arrival down to the present moment. Papers which he demanded I have delivered, contrary to the pleasure of the Vizier. In no point whatever have I been deficient in obedience and submission. Whatever he has directed, on whatever subject, I have considered a compliance with his directions as obedience to your commands, and without difficulty or hesitation have abortive?—I would ask Hyder Beg Khan, Has any separation of the Nabob's private and public funds taken place? Is the Mutteyenna reformed? Are the offices of treasury and collections yet established? Has any one measure, either for the distribution of criminal or civil justice, been adopted? Yet the Minister, with the most imposing gravity, asserts, "That he has complied, "without *difficulty* or *hesitation*, with whatever I directed, on whatever subject, and that volumes "would be insufficient to "contain the particulars on "this ground;" and concludes by pronouncing, with his usual decession, that he is very well assured he shall be upholden in these daring falsehoods by the testimony of the English gentlemen at Lucknow.—I submit to the Honourable Board, whether this is not adding insult to contumacy; or whether it is possible to be guilty of a more gross or more wanton prostitution of terms.

have fulfilled them. Volumes would be insufficient to contain the particulars, on this ground; to relate them circumstantially, is therefore impracticable; and you must already be well and fully informed on the subject, as many of the gentlemen residing here are perfectly acquainted with most of the circumstances. Notwithstanding this entire and implicit obedience and attendance on his will, every mark of attention, and every instance of support, which you, in your solicitude for the happiness and well-being of his Highness, and from your regard for the honour and respectability of his Ministers, have always and uniformly shewn, and the Gentlemen heretofore appointed to this office, in obedience to your pleasure, were wont to exhibit, have been totally neglected and disregarded by Mr. Bristow.

Par. 4th. The first order that he gave on his arrival was, that I should deliver up my papers to him. He examined them, and, after an interval of some days, declared, that he was to take all the affairs of this country, all the offices, household establishments, &c. and all the troops in the service of his Highness, under his own immediate management, and make the disbursements to each with his own hands—That, as the military expences, those of the household, of the Jageerdars and Tuncawdars of the Surcar,

Par. 4th. The first part of this charge is a vague unsupported assertion, marked by its absurdity, contradicted by the fact, and requiring no other refutation. The latter is absolutely false. I proposed to the Minister to assist Government with a loan, either from his own fortune, or upon his credit; observing, that it was particularly incumbent upon those who derive great advantages from their public stations, to prove their zeal for the State, by uniformly exerting themselves to relieve its distresses;—that I would employ my influence

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appeared to be very considerable, an addition to the ways and means would be wanting, and therefore I must give up five-and-twenty lacks of rupees from my own private property, to enable him to pay the troops, the household establishments, Jageerdars, &c. I represented to him, that from the moderate russoom granted and confirmed to us, under the sign manual of his Highness, I had annually advanced more or less to the Nabob Vizier, in proportion to his necessities; and that what remained had been disbursed in defraying my own necessary expences—That the accounts respecting the Russoom, from my first appointment to the Neabut, were forthcoming, which he might examine.—He replied, That accounts were useless—that I had accumulated great wealth; if I would give the sum he had mentioned, it was well; if not, he would, by a change in the office of Neabut, find means to procure the money.—I asked him, whether the money could be procured by making that change? He replied in the affirmative, and I returned from his presence. By one of his friends I afterwards sent him the following message:—That the Neabut, and the respectability which I possessed, were the gifts of the Governor General; That his Highness, with his usual benevolence towards his servants, had shewn me favour; and that, influence with the Bankers, and procure a sum equal to what it might be in his power to advance. This most simple transaction, which had for its sole object the service of the public, the Minister, with his usual candour, explains into an attempt to rob him of 25 lacks of rupees; and, with his usual truth, imagines terrors which he did not feel, and forges messages which he did not send. Far from furnishing any proof of that violence of temper, a belief of which Hyder Beg Khan has so studiously endeavoured to impress, my correspondence is the best test of the moderation with which I acted, notwithstanding the insults and evasions I experienced from the Minister on every occasion. If, imitating the example of my predecessor, I had availed myself of the discretion allowed me by my instructions, and, when convinced, by trials often repeated, of the inefficacy of remonstrance and expostulation, had I assumed another tone, the public service would have been performed, and I should not now have every thing to regret or to apprehend from the opposition of the Minister.

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that, to the present time, I had not been wanting or deficient in my duty to either Surcar: That, as he, Mr. Bristow, had been induced, at the instigations of my enemies, to make the preceding declarations, if he was really and positively determined, in consequence of such advice, to dismiss me from my office, it was well; I would retire with my family to Calcutta.——His friend replied by message, That what he, Mr. Bristow, had said, had proceeded from the impulse of a violent temper, worked upon by the advice of several mischievously-disposed persons, and that it would in the end subside.—I returned for answer, that I would wait upon Mr. Bristow the next day, and never quit him, day or night, until I had succeeded in removing the idea which he entertained respecting my wealth.—With this intention, I waited upon him on the following morning.—What conversation had passed between him and his friend, I know not; but immediately on my arrival at his house, he sent me a message, adjuring me to lay aside all appearances of anger, as inconsistent and improper; and proposing that we should meet and confer together upon affairs as usual.—Deeming it in every respect necessary to obey, I conducted myself as he had desired, and, without entering upon the subject, delivered to him the accounts,

written

written at large, of the receipts of Russoom for the last six years; observing that the country and the Aumils, both those in and those out of employment, were forth-coming, and that he might oppose and compare these with their accounts.—He replied, that at all events money must be raised.—I answered, that I should not have been backward, if the means had been in my possession.

Par. 5th. After the preceding affair, he brought forward the business respecting the stationing of the regiments; saying that I must procure a Shoka to be written by his Highness on that subject.—I observed, that it would be necessary to communicate the matter to the Nabob Vizier, and obtain his consent; at first he agreed, and said he would speak to his Highness on the subject: after some days employed in conferences on this business, deeming it improper to mention it to the Nabob, he told me that it was altogether unnecessary; complained, at the same time, that on all occasions I was wont to introduce the name of the Vizier, demanding my reasons for so doing.—I replied, That every measure which was carried into execution without the Vizier's knowledge, must ultimately draw the displeasure of both parties upon me. He asserted the contrary; saying, he had it in command from the Governor General and Gentlemen

Par. 5th. It is repeatedly upon record, that I have always disclaimed an unauthorized use of the Vizier's name; and I have as repeatedly declared to Hyder Beg Khan, that if any situation should occur where no discretion was left me, and it was indispensible I should act, I would make the act my own; I would issue the directions that were necessary in my own name.—That these were my sentiments, appears even from the Minister's own confession, in another part of his charge.—It is most true, Gentlemen, that the Shoka in question was written without the knowledge of the Vizier; but it is as true that it was so written by the Minister alone—not only in this instance, but also with respect to the assignment in favour of the Turksowars. Hyder Beg Khan acquainted me, long after the orders had been expedited, that they were issued unknown to the Vizier.—When I understood this to have been the case, I

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men of the Council, to act as he should deem proper, without waiting to inform the Nabob, or allowing his measures to depend on his Highness's pleasure or displeasure; and ordered me to cause the Shoka to be written.—As I consider his Highness's well-being and prosperity to be promoted by my attachment to the Company—and esteeming it a duty, in obedience to your commands, to obey Mr. Bristow, I thought it improper to say any thing further to him on the subject; and therefore I did as he had directed, and, without the Vizier's knowledge, caused the Shoka to be written, and delivered it to Mr. Bristow.—In the same manner, from the apprehension of suffering disgrace, I was induced to write and deliver to him, by his orders, several other Shokas without his Highness's knowledge. At length the Vizier obtained information of these particulars, and I fell under his displeasure.—Still, considering my duty to the Company's Surcar and my duty to his Highness as inseparable from each other, and looking up to you for favour and protection, I continued to exert myself as usual.

I severely censured his behaviour; explaining to him, withal, the abhorrence with which acts of this name were regarded by the natives of Europe; and warning him, that, should you ever be advertised of the transactions, he would assuredly fall under your heaviest displeasure; and that my silence would depend upon his religiously observing my injunctions against a repetition of such unwarrantable conduct. The language I held on this occasion, no doubt, determined him to provide against the consequences of a future discovery—and the way in which he has thought proper to attempt this is far from being matter of surprize to me.—It is most natural that accusations originating in malice, should be uniformly supported by falsehood. You, however, Gentlemen, will judge how well this affected delicacy, with respect to the application of the Nabob's seal, accords with his having been in *actual* possession of it for *years*, at the time it was first entrusted to him.—A discretionary power was also, as he pretends, *freely* granted him by his master to use it as he should see fit. Under this sanction he has since reigned, with the utmost unbounded authority, over the territories of Asuph ud Dowla; and in commanding, he has ruined them.—Yet Asuph ud Dowla, if we will believe Hyder Beg Khan, is a Prince most jealous of his rights,

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Par. 6th. The preceding was followed by an order from Mr. Briſtow, to make out and deliver to him an account of the expences of the Nabob's kitchen, houſes, elephants, camels, &c. &c. &c.—I repreſented, That he had never, during his former reſidency, demanded theſe papers, nor had they ever been demanded by either of the Gentlemen who ſucceeded him, and that if I ſhould now preſume to deliver them, without his Highneſs's conſent, he would certainly reſent it. — To which Mr. Briſtow replied, In every buſineſs, you ſtill introduce the name of his Highneſs; it will not be well for you: I have orders to take poſſeſſion of all papers. Without remedy, I delivered to him the accounts above mentioned. — Mr. Briſtow now declared, that a Treaſurer and Comptroller muſt be appointed to the Nabob's houſehold. This meaſure he at firſt propoſed to his Highneſs through the medium of other perſons; at laſt he himſelf viſited the Nabob: As the Nabob did not acquieſce in this meaſure; but, on the contrary, made objections to the appointments

rights, and poſſeſſing great ſenſibility. — That ſuch a Prince ſhould make a voluntary ſurrender of the one, and a ſacrifice of the other, merely to pleaſe his Miniſter, is a ſoleeiſm in politics and in nature; which that Miniſter muſt reconcile before he will be believed.

Par. 6th. I beg leave to requeſt your attention, Gentlemen, to the treaty of Chunar; and alſo, to the following extract of the Honourable the Governor General's inſtructions to the late Reſident, Mr. Middleton, in conſequence of that treaty:—" I need ſcarcely " inform you, that my chief " object, in my negociations with the Nabob, " has been to induce and " aſſiſt him to bring his " Government and finances " into ſuch regularity, as to " prevent his alliance from " being a clog, inſtead of " an aid, to the Company; " and to enable him to diſcharge his debt in the " ſhorteſt time poſſible. To " this end, the moſt eſſential point is, to limit and " ſeparate his perſonal diſburſements from the public accounts. They muſt " not, in their total annual " amount, exceed what he " has received in any of the " laſt three years. This " amount, in twelve equal " parts, ſhould be paid him " monthly, out of the firſt " receipts," — and alſo, to this extract of the additional inſtructions from the Honourable the Governor General

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pointments of Treasurer and Comptroller, Mr. Bristow applied to and directed me to prevail upon his Highness to make those appointments. —Agreeably to his orders, I waited upon and made the necessary representations to the Nabob; who, in reply, said, Mr. Bristow, the day before yesterday, declared to me that Hyder Beg Khan should have nothing to do in these affairs, after what manner was it possible for him to communicate this message to you? I answered, That except by the directions of Mr. Bristow, I could not have brought the message. His Highness commanded me to return to Mr. Bristow, and to represent to him, in terms the most forcible, that he (Mr. Bristow) could obtain no benefit by the appointments of Treasurer and Comptroller; but that those appointments would reflect disgrace and contempt upon his Highness, since it would become apparent that the Vizier possessed no authority whatever, even over his household establishments, domestics, and beasts of carriage and burthen:—To ask him, why he thus persecuted and depressed? adding, "The little which falls to my lot, "even that he will not allow me to eat in peace "and quietness." This declaration was accompanied by tears of anguish.—I delivered his Highness's message to Mr. Bristow, and represented to him all that had passed, general to me, conformably to the reference of the Board: "In my late engagement "with the Nabob, it was "stipulated that a certain "sum should be set apart "monthly for his private "expences; and this made "a part of my private in-"structions to Mr. Mid-"dleton: The sum was "afterwards fixed, as I re-"collect, at thirty lacks. It "was my intention and di-"rection that this appro-"riation should be made "before any other; and this "I make my present in-"junction to you."—These are the grounds, Gentlemen, upon which I recommended to the Nabob the separation of his public and private funds; and as it was self-evidently impossible that the monies which were to compose this fund, when so separated, and which the Governor General had prescribed should be paid by instalments, could be secure from embezzlement, except by the establishment of an office of treasury, I consequently urged the Nabob to establish such an office. Aware of the danger he should incur by a declared resistance to the execution of an article so explicitly provided for by the treaty, Hyder Beg Khan has endeavoured to palliate his opposition to it by the most malicious misrepresentation of my motives, alledging it was my purpose to *reduce* the Vizier to a cypher, though it was plain that the measure in question was

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passed, and the state of mind in which he was. Mr. Bristow replied, That with respect to the Nabob's crying, such tricks and artifices would not avail with him; that the Nabob knew him well, knew him to be *that* Mr. Bristow who always did that which he had said and declared he would do; that he should do so on the present occasion: That he had laboured hard for six years; that the Gentlemen in Europe would have appointed him to a seat in the Supreme Council, but he had refused it—he had been labouring to obtain this office, the Government of this country; that all people, and all his friends, had told him he would never obtain it; yet at last he was come: He had positive orders to act, in every respect, as he should think best; that he was possessed of full and complete authority; that he should cause the Treasurer and Comptroller to be appointed this year; and from the beginning of the next, he would take the total revenue or treasury of the whole country into his own hands, and would himself issue in specie such sum as should be necessary. That such expences for elephants, horses, &c. were extravagant; that the number of domestics was immoderate; and that there was more victuals than was necessary dressed in the Nabob's kitchen;—that he would not permit or suffer such expences. I asked Mr. Bristow was the only one that could prevent his *continuing such*. It is impossible to give a more clear exposition of my own conduct, or a more decided testimony of the illiberal, disingenuous procedure of the Minister, than by a reference to the whole correspondence that passed between us on this occasion. The wretched artifice to which Hyder Beg Khan has had recourse, of garbling that correspondence, in order to give a colour to his assertions, furnishes the strongest presumptive proof that he was convinced, if truly recited and taken together, it would overturn his whole argument. With respect to the other evidence he has produced on this occasion, and which he is pleased to call "Substance and conversations respecting the appointment of a Treasurer, &c. to the Nabob's household," I assure you, very seriously, Gentlemen, that the greater part is absolutely of the Minister's own invention; and the remainder falsified by design. Should any further explanation be thought necessary, I beg leave to appeal to my addresses to the Governor General on this subject, dated the 12th of December, 1782, and the 4th March, 1783, as also to the Board of the 21st January last; and I trust it is by such ample and explicit testimonies as these that my intentions will be judged of, and not by the unsupported assertions,

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Briſtow if I was to communicate what he had ſaid to the Nabob? Yes, he replied; and that I ſhould tell his Highneſs what he had ſaid in plain terms; that he alſo would go face to face, and tell him ſo. Accordingly at the end of two days, he came to the Nabob, and deſired him to make the appointments of Treaſurer and Compt oller, adding, that they were points which he would never give up: That his orders from the Gentlemen of the Council were peremptory.—His Highneſs replied, "If you have peremptory orders on this "ſubject, give to me a "written copy of thoſe or-"ders. My ſeal is forth-"coming, take it, and do "by force whatever you "think proper; I will ſhut "up the doors of my houſe, "and there I will ſit and "ſeclude myſelf from all "ſociety."—Mr. Briſtow replied, That he would give him a written copy of the orders from the Gentlemen of the Council; and with regard to his ſeal, which he offered to ſend, he might ſend it.—For two days after the preceding converſation, the Nabob ſent his ſeal by the Molavee, along with me, to Mr. Briſtow; in conſequence of which, Mr. Briſtow ſaid, That if the Nabob thought proper, he would act as he (Mr. Briſtow) had deſired, and in that caſe himſelf affix his ſeal to the ſhokas; if not, he would not allow the buſineſs to depend aſſertions, partial extracts, and fabricated converſations of the Miniſter.

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pend upon the Nabob's seal; he would send letters under his own seal to the Aumils, directing them to transmit the money to him, and would keep the Treasury in his own hands. The having wrote those letters, is mentioned by Mr. Bristow in his letter to me (vide copy No. 4.); to such a degree has he depressed and degraded, the Nabob. The conversations which have passed, and an account of the oppressions exercised towards his Highness, will be made known to you by his letter. When the Nabob made objections to the appointments of Treasurer and Comptroller, grounded on the indignity and contempt which those appointments would bring upon him, Mr. Bristow directed his suspicions towards me, and wrote me a letter; to which I replied; copies of both letters are submitted to your inspection (vide copies No. 4. and 5.); thence my culpability or innocence, together with Mr. Bristow's declarations respecting my dismission from office, and other particulars, will be made known to you. As my letter in reply contained a matter of fact recapitulation of all that had passed, Mr. Bristow did not reply to or contradict it.

Par. 7th. This was followed by an order to write and send to him muster rolls of the troops, both the Mutteyenna and those attending the presence. I represented to him, that he had already taken from me the whole of the

Par. 7th. My former communications made your Honourable Board fully acquainted with the difficulties and delays I met with in obtaining the accounts of the Mutteyenna, as well as with the enormous and alarming abuses

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the revenue accounts; that a full ſtatement of the Mutteyenna was included therein. He replied, That I muſt write and deliver ſeparate muſter rolls of the troops to him. I requeſted a reſpite for a few days for this purpoſe. He anſwered, no; that would be improper; that the Mootaſuddies muſt be ſent to his houſe and write there. Accordingly he gave orders to Mr. Cowper to aſſemble them there; and there they continued, in the ſtile of priſoners, writing from ſun-riſe till nine at night, for the ſpace of ſeven or eight days. When the regiſter or muſter roll was finiſhed, Mr. Briſtow ordered four thouſand horſe and ſeven thouſand foot of the Mutteyenna to be diſcharged, ſaying, that if the Aumils ſhould have occaſion for more troops, he had ſent for fifteen thouſand ſtand of arms from Calcutta; he would raiſe ſepoys; and, in lieu of the troops diſmiſſed, he would ſend thoſe ſepoys, entertained by himſelf, to the Aumils. I replied, That he was maſter, and poſſeſſed of ſupreme power; he was to act as he thought proper. Some time after he told me, that the arms which he had ſent for from Calcutta were not arrived; that at the commencement of the year he ſhould ſet on foot an eſtabliſhment here for the repairing and making of arms, and raiſe troops, as he had ſaid before It was now become abuſes of that eſtabliſhment. I wiſh I could claim the merit of having, in any degree, corrected them. Hyder Beg Khan took the alarm at the firſt appearance of a diſpoſition in me to inveſtigate this ſubject; he became doubly active in his reſiſtance to the reform of an inſtitution, which, in its preſent ſtate, leaves at his diſpoſal one third of the revenues of the country; and his efforts were, as uſual, but too ſucceſsful. The reſt of this article, as detailed by the Miniſter, is an abſolute romance. My plan, as I really explained it in the outline to Hyder Beg Khan, ſhall in due time be ſubmitted to the Honourable Board.

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come neceſſary for me to approve and acquieſce, with entire ſubmiſſion, in every thing which he was pleaſed to ſay or direct.

Par. 8th. On this occaſion, I communicated to his Highneſs certain arrangements, implying advice or propoſals for my utter expulſion from office. To which the Nabob replied: On a former occaſion I was prevailed upon, by your Counſels, to adopt a conduct ſimilar to that which you recommend, towards Mochtaum Dowlah, and afterwards you yourſelf ſtood forth to aid and protect him. What are your real intentions now? Mr. Briſtow replied, That his Highneſs might ſet his heart at eaſe with reſpect to him; that he would be a ſurety, and would give an engagement in writing under his ſeal, that on this occaſion no protection or aſſiſtance ſhould be afforded to his Highneſs's Miniſters on the part of the Engliſh; that his Highneſs, in changing the ſaid Miniſters, and ſubſtituting others, might take whatever ſteps he thought proper.

Par. 9th. The next time I waited upon him, he propoſed that we ſhould be reconciled to each other. I ſaid, that I was obedient to his pleaſure; that I had not hitherto been wanting in obedience; and, that in future I ſhould not;—but that kindneſs on his part was alſo neceſſary. He replied, that reconciliation, on his part, would

Par. 8th. I am now indeed fully convinced, and I have told your Honourable Board ſo, that the ſalvation of Owde depends upon the diſmiſſion of the Miniſter; to have held this language to the Nabob, would nevertheleſs have been very idle, and for the reaſons ſufficiently obvious; indeed I never held it, unleſs Hyder Beg Khan will maintain, as he has frequently done, that to preſs the points of inſtructions, which I had the moſt poſitive injunctions implicitly to attend to, and which I have hitherto exerted myſelf, in oppoſition to this man, to no purpoſe, to effect, is equivalent to ſoliciting his removal. Every ſalutary meaſure, every idea of reform, he conſiders as the annihilation of his office, and reſents accordingly.

Par. 9th. I am afraid, Gentlemen, I ſhall weary you, if I have not already done ſo, by thus continuing to examine minutely the looſe invectives, and puerile details, of the Miniſter. If, imitating his example, I were weak enough to obtrude upon the patience of the Board the current reports of Lucknow, I ſhould retort this charge

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would depend upon my not having wrote to the Governor General any information of what was paſſing here. I replied, That I had nothing to do with writing accounts of what paſſed here; but that thoſe things he had done, and thoſe which be intended to do, were known to people of all deſcriptions in this city; that Mirza Iſmael Beg, who was his Counſellor and manager, had publiſhed them to every one, and that people ſpoke of them without reſerve to each other. Mr. Briſtow anſwered, That he had never mentioned any thing on theſe ſubjects to Iſmael Beg. I ſaid, If that be the caſe, why does he preſume to tell the people that you will turn out the Nabob's Aumils, and appoint Aumils of your own? Many, to whom he has made this declaration, are ready to bear witneſs to the truth of it. On hearing this, he coldly replied, That he had never ſaid ſo; for, as Iſmael Beg had propagated theſe reports agreeably to Mr. Briſtow's inclinations, he did not think it proper to call him to any account for them —*Such is Mr Briſtow's diſpoſition, that he outwardly profeſſes and careſſes, while in reality he is endeavouring to expel me from my office*; and then frequently denies or contradicts his own declarations. In the repreſentation which I have made, I have not, in any one inſtance, deviated from the truth; and it is a poſitive proof of the reality

charge of Hyder Beg Khan, and inform you, that he has repeatedly declared his reſolution to perſiſt, at all riſques, in the conduct he has hitherto purſued, in contempt of any commands, however poſitive, which he may receive from the Honourable the Governor General or Council. The utter diſregard with which he ſtill treats them, is indeed a very unequivocal teſt of the reality of ſuch declaration; whilſt, on the other hand, *his* accuſations have neither fact, argument, or even probability, to ſupport them. Not only here, but in other parts of his letter, the Miniſter plumes himſelf exceedingly, that I did not reply to his dull voluminous details, which he is pleaſed to call matter of fact recapitulations. I had already explained to him, in the plaineſt language, my intentions; which he ſtill wilfully miſunderſtood, and invariably miſrepreſented. Having every thing of importance yet to do, I did not chuſe to engage in a ſilly and endleſs war of words, or to ſit down ſeriouſly to anſwer fables, becauſe he choſe to dignify them with the name of facts. For the reſt, I am willing to flatter myſelf, that what I have already ſaid will ſufficiently evince, the portrait Hyder Beg Khan has here ſketched, with ſuch peculiar felicity, is a ſtriking likeneſs of himſelf; although, at the ſame time, I confeſs I know not whether moſt to admire the modeſty

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reality of many of the particulars, that Mr. Briſtow did not reply to thoſe which are ſtated in my anſwer to this letter, but at our next interview aſſumed appearances of affability and good-will. All perſons of rank and condition, in this city, are fully acquainted with the foregoing circumſtances.

Par. 10th. The abſolute power aſſumed by Mr. Briſtow, in the affairs of this Surcar, is arrived at ſuch a pitch, that to conſult the pleaſure of the Nabob, or to adviſe with me in the conduct of affairs, are circumſtances which he totally diſregards. Thus, the appointment of Mahomed Beg, a trooper under Mirza Aboo Taulſeb, the intimate of Mr. Johnſon, to the Suzzauwulli of Furruckabad, by the removal of Mahomed Saaud Khan, and through the interpoſition of Iſmael Beg (which ſome time ſince took place) is a circumſtance known to all mankind. I repreſented to Mr. Briſtow, that his Highneſs did not approve of the appointment; but my repreſentation was diſregarded, and he poſitively obliged me to write and deliver to him a Shoka, appointing Mahomed Beg. In the ſame manner, he has reſolved and intends to ſend out Suzzauwuls from himſelf to all the Mahaluts. He moreover, on all occaſions, both in private and in public, declares, and has repeatedly ſaid the ſame to me, that at the commencement of

modeſty or magnanimity with which he has yielded in my favour all the honour of the reſemblance.

Par. 10th. Here again, Gentlemen, Hyder Beg Khan himſelf propoſed the meaſure he cenſures and complains of. Had I indeed liſtened to the inſidious propoſitions of the Miniſter, my Sezawuls would at this moment have covered the face of the Vizier's dominions and Hyder Beg Khan would have triumphed in ſeeing me the dupe of a policy by which he meant to provide againſt a future failure of the collections, and hoped (though I had no ſhare in the nomination of the perſons who had been choſen to ſuperintend them) to make me ſolely reſponſible for all their oppreſſions and miſmanagement. For the detail of this tranſaction, I beg permiſſion, Gentlemen, to refer you to my addreſs of the 30th January, 1782; whence it will appear, that I always conſidered the appointment of a Sezawul to Furruckabad as a deſperate alternative; but it was the only one: I therefore acquieſced in it, when urgently recommended by the Miniſter, and was happy to find that acquieſcence honoured and confirmed by your approbation.

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of the enſuing year he will turn out all the Nabob Vizier's aumils, and appoint aumils of his own: That he will order the whole of the revenues to be paid in to him; and, that he will iſſue to the Nabob, in ſpecie, with his own hand, what he himſelf may think neceſſary for his Highneſs's expences; and that he will not ſuffer the authority of this Surcar to remain in a ſingle Mahaul. He frequently ſays, Why does the Nabob keep ſo many elephants and horſes? why are ſuch quantities of proviſions dreſſed in his kitchen? Such numbers of domeſtics are unneceſſary. I will curtail the whole.

Par. 11. With reſpect to us, who are your dependants, and the Miniſters of his Highneſs, our credit and executive authority in all affairs is utterly annihilated. Like the houſehold ſervants of Mr. Briſtow, we are day and night attending his commands; yet even by this conduct he will not be prevailed upon to govern with candour and complacency: Notwithſtanding all that we do, our hours are filled with unremitting alarms for the ſafety of our honour.—We have no reſource but in your benevolence; no proſpect of redreſs, but from your equity and juſtice. Impelled by the emoſt urgent neceſſity, his Highneſs has written to you a narrative of his ſituation; and I, your devoted ſervant, have thus repreſented

Par. 11th. Hyder Beg Khan, unerringly inſtructed by the monitor in his own breaſt how quickly a flouriſhing and happy people may be reduced to diſpair by the oppreſſive hand of a gloomy unfeeling tyrant, attributes to my four months reſidence at Owde the moſt deplorable and moſt extenſive calamities. If, however, at ſome future period, an anſwer to all or any of the following queſtions ſhould be formally required from the Miniſter, it is as little probable that he will ſtill perſiſt to ſubſtitute my name for his own, as it is conceivable he ſhould now have done ſo, had he not ridiculouſly perſuaded himſelf I ſhould be diſmiſſed without a hearing; and that he might therefore ſafely hazard the moſt incredible

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ed all that has paſſed under my obſervation, to the preſent time, without addition or dimunition, that we, the Miniſters, may not hereafter be deemed guilty of neglect, in withholding the neceſſary information of the preſent ſtate of things here. The happineſs and proſperity of the Nabob depend upon your favour and kindneſs; our honour and ſtability on your bounty and ſupport.—Whatever may be your determination in behalf of the Surcar, it will be received with joy and reſpect. Deeming it a duty to make this repreſentation, I have thus laid it before you. It was heretofore the eſtabliſhed cuſtom with the Gentlemen appointed to ſuperintend the Company's affairs at this Court, to take jauidaads to the amount of the Company's demand, and to leave the balance of revenue, ariſing from the remainder of the country, at the diſpoſal of his Highneſs; in conſequence of which, more or leſs was forthcoming to the Tuncawdars, Jageerdars, and Huzzooree troops, and for the expences of the Nabob's houſehold eſtabliſhments, elephants, horſes, camels, &c. In the preſent year, Mr. Briſtow, after taking the company's jauidaad, gave orders, that from the remainder of the revenues of this country, no money ſhould be iſſued to any perſon whatever; that, having appointed a Treaſurer and Comptroller, he would call in the monies,

dible and impoſſible falſehoods.—Who has, I would aſk him, for ſeven years paſt, had the entire ſuperintendance of the Nabob's revenues, and, by his miſmanagement, occaſioned a decline ſo rapid, that they are already reduced one third in their annual value? Who has ſuffered a nominal army, at an annual expence of a crore of rupees, to continue for years a dead weight upon the public? Who has held for years the unparticipated and uncontrouled authority over the dominions and over the treaſures of the Nabob of Owde, and has well nigh made a deſert of the one, and moſt ſhamefully diſſipated the other? If the improvident and wicked adminiſtration of the public money has introduced confuſion and diſorder into every department of the ſtate—if the immediate dependants of the Prince partake of diſtreſſes from which even the Prince himſelf is exempted—if his court exhibits a lamentable ſcene of want and wretchedneſs—if thoſe who are allied and united to him by the ties of conſanguinity or friendſhip are alike periſhing, unpitied and unrelieved—who, I preſume to aſk, is the author of their miſeries, or the object of their execrations? It is indeed moſt important, Gentlemen, that the real author of theſe complicated evils ſhould be known; that the millions which have been ſquandered ſhould be accounted for; and that exemplary

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monies, and direct the disbursements himself. In consequence of which, to the present period, no subsistance whatever has been received by the Tuncawdars, Jagheerdars, Hindostan troops, or people employed in the offices of government; and they are one and all calling out for redress and justice.—Such is the situation of things there, that all mankind are reduced to a state of despair by the hand of Mr. Brisow.

exemplary punishment should be inflicted upon the guilty, as well to prevent hereafter a repetition of such enormous offences, as to deter other delinquents from following the example of Hyder Beg Khan, and attempting to fix the odium of their iniquities upon the English nation.

Par. 12. We, the Ministers, owe our present situation to your bounty; his Highness also is devoted to your pleasure in all respects; and, from the interchange of turbans between you and the late Nabob, he considers you as the brother of his father.—Whatever may be your pleasure in behalf of his Highness, and with respect to the well government of this country, which in a peculiar manner appertains to you, his Highness does in no respect whatever object. Whatever directions you may give, those directions he will obey.—If, from the kindness and affection which you bear towards his Highness, you shall please to confer upon him discretionary powers for the discharge of the Company's demands, whatever may be the sums stated by Mr. Bristow to you as payable, and to be paid in the course of the current year, his Highness, on receiving information of the amount, is ready and willing with such powers

Par. 12. I hope, Gentlemen, what has preceded will have sufficiently explained and exposed the detestable arts the Minister has practised to establish the complaints he has preferred against me.—The tenor of this last article, as well as the whole of his address to the Honourable the Governor General, received the 7th April, are better proofs, if better *can* be, of the real motives which first determined him to complain, than any I have hitherto suggested.—Pretending to feel for the injured honour of his Prince, he comes forward as my accuser; but his accusation closes with a proposal, which I conceive must do more injury to this cause than a volume of detail refutation; it furnishes the plainest evidence: In soliciting my removal, he had in view but one object, and that object was himself.—In the letter above alluded to, he charges me with taking by violence his tummosuk "from the

"bankers,

to discharge the same:—And we, the Ministers, in obedience to your pleasure, and strengthened and supported by you, will, at all events, raise the necessary supplies for the payment thereof, and for the ensuing year: Agreeably to such plan or system as you may determine upon for the payment of the current demand, with discretionary powers to his Highness, we will take measures for the payment of the same, in such manner that, under the favour of God, and with your protection, the sums payable to the Company's Surcar shall be punctually received.—By such a system, your fame, and the fame of the English people, shall extend throughout this empire; and due regard to your controuling power, and submission and obedience to your orders, though secretly operating, shall be firmly established, as shall afford you ample cause for satisfaction. —The success of these proposals depends upon your favour: With you it must rest to form such a plan for the payment of the Company's demands as may be consistent with the honour and dignity of the Nabob Vizier —and whatever mode you may please to point out, with the blessing of God, agreeably thereto, your pleasure shall be fulfilled, without the smallest deviation. Through God's favour, your knowledge and experience are celebrated among men; you are the support and protector of

" bankers, substituting my " own, and declining bills " upon the Mahajins."—My tummosuk was substituted, in order to deprive Almass Ally Cawn of the additional districts, and in strict conformity to a secret article of the Governor General's instructions.—I did not decline bills on the Mahajins; — the engagement with them could not be fulfilled, as the installments for paying them were at too early a period to realize a sufficient sum, from the receipts of the revenue, both to satisfy them, and to furnish supplies to the army. The Minister had promised me a loan of six lacks of rupees, which would have relieved me from all difficulties; but in this, as in every other instance, he forfeited his word, and I was compelled to borrow the money myself to pay the troops. So far from oppressing the bankers, by a timely aid, I saved the house of Buckraje and Cushmyrry Mull from bankruptcy.—They had all strained their credit.—This, and the reduction of the interest from two to one per cent. per month, were my reasons for not accepting more bills at that particular juncture.—It is not, surely, in the little malice of Hyder Beg Khan to give an invidious character to measures like these, either adopted as a security against rebellion, or to save the public money; and which have already been honoured with your fullest approbation.

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of your friends; and affairs of every description are familiar to your penetration. It is apparent, that in case his Highness's authority shall be restored, bankers, merchants, friends, and connections, all will be filled with confidence; looking forward to future benefits, every one will consider his difficulties as objects of indifference or satisfaction. The payment of the Company's demands, and the fulfilment of your pleasure, will be the first objects of their views and wishes; no man will complain of hardships; but, in the expectation of future prosperity, one and all will with gratitude acknowledge your goodness, and chearfully submit to every possible saving for the purpose of discharging the debt to the Company.—With respect to these arrangements, whatever may be your pleasure will be proper and just, and our obedience is unlimited. Redress and protection, in behalf of his Highness, from the hand of Mr. Bristow, under whom the most unbounded oppression is experienced, peculiarly depends upon your benevolence: Whatever may appear to you most proper, let us be favoured with your orders, and they shall be obeyed.

I come now, Gentlemen, to the Minister's third and last address to the Honourable the Governor General, received the 1st May, 1783. In my letter to the Board of the 13th May, every thing has been said, and, I trust, every thing has been proved, on the subject of the Adawlut, as far as will be necessary to shew that there is not perhaps a syl-

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a syllable of truth in what Hyder Beg Khan has advanced: I shall, therefore, now limit myself to a very few additional observations. And first, Gentlemen, he has again most shamefully garbled the correspondence that passed between us on this occasion, and shewn the same contempt for truth as in the first part of his accusations. It is wonderful with what industry this man has continued to misrepresent my every action since I became resident.—If I desire one of my assistants to consult the Minister, in my name, upon the best mode of redressing present injuries, and prevent them in future, he terms it appointing him Darogo of the Adawlut.—If such Gentleman submits his ideas to the Minister, to be adopted or rejected, as he, having considered them, shall determine, the Minister calls it issuing mandates to the Nabob, and reducing him to a cutwal; and, because he is conscious that there is as wide a distinction between the real fact and his statement of it, as there is between the delivery of a speculative opinion and the promulgation of a positive law, he adds falsehood to misrepresentation, and makes speeches for my assistant which he never dreamt of.—If, again, I desire my assistant, as he understands Persian, to prepare papers in that language for my signature, Hyder Beg Khan asserts I suffer my assistant to issue shokas in his own name to the Aumils.—If I commit to him the charge of public monies, the Minister affirms I suffer him to appoint a Treasurer of his own, and, in addition, names persons as in actual possession of the office, who, for aught either of us know to the contrary, may never have existed.—In short, Gentlemen, there is no perversion of fact, no contradiction in argument, no prostitution of terms, to which he has not been driven, in his attempts to reconcile the grossest inconsistencies.——Lastly, I shall pass to his narrative addressed to the Governor General, and received the 4th of May, 1783.—I have before remarked, and it will, no doubt, have struck the Honourable Board, that the proofs produced by Hyder Beg Khan, in support of his charges, are, for the most part, of such a nature as to admit but of one mode of refutation. To an ipse dixit, what but a flat denial can be opposed? unless it happens, as is indeed generally the case of the Minister, that its own absurdity may be further pleaded against it: But this is of little moment here, since, whenever the Minister has inadvertantly exposed himself to the force of reason or of evidence, the arguments I have urged, and the testimonies I have produced, have gone uniformly to prove how little credit is due to his most solemn declarations.—The above narrative will afford a striking illustration of this remark. Although the circumstances it relates are in themselves so strange and improbable, that to induce a

belief

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belief of them, the most circumstantial evidence must, I should imagine, be required, yet Hyder Beg Khan has rested upon them, one only excepted, upon his bare affirmation, expresly, as it would seem, to give me once again an opportunity of explaining, from that one, with how much indifference he falsifies it.—He says, "I asked "him what his plan for modelling the Vizier's government "was, in the execution of which he was desirous of my "acting with him: He repeated verbally some articles.—I "called for pen and ink, and wrote them down as he re-"peated them; and then asked whether these were all, or "if there was any thing more; he replied, This plan, af-"ter this manner, is agreeable to the orders of the Gover-"nor and the Gentlemen of the Council, directed to be "carried into execution; which, at the time of my com-"ing here, they gave to me personally, and delivered to "me in writing"—The Minister, Gentlemen, did not, as he asserts, call for pen and ink, and write down, as I repeated them, the articles here mentioned; but he sat at home, and deliberately forged what he has since wickedly endeavoured to persuade the Governor General, and the Board, was my production. I only request, it may be compared with the plan I really delivered to him upon this subject, and which I have already had the honour to submit to you. After so decided a proof of his consummate treachery, is it necessary I should proceed to a formal denial of the rest of his narrative?—It is not possible, that a Gentleman should be so careless of his own dignity, or so wanting in respect to the character and station of the Governor General; and I therefore feel the indecorum of offering either to deny or to apologize. At the same time, I am free to declare, that my respect alone restrains me from tendering, not only my honour, but my oath, on this occasion, in opposition to Hyder Beg Khan; who has not, from the first word of the above narrative to the last, once deviated into truth.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy of an enclosure in Mr. Bristow's letter.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Comparative

Comparative Statement of the Revenues of the Vizier's Dominions, between the Year 1183, and the Year 1190 Fussulee.

Districts.	Revenues of the Year 1183.			Revenues of the Year 1190.		
Corah and Currah	15,61,251	0	0	12,78,441	11	0
Sharah —	6,50,000	0	0	5,75,383	14	0
Jagdisepore, &c.	7,69,000	0	0	7,31,406	11	9
Etawa —	44,85,321	0	0	32,71,505	0	0
Rohilcund, including Lataufit Ally Cawn's jayiidaad	60,60,341		0	45,04,194	3	4
Khyrabad —	11,00,000	0	0	9,82,473	0	0
Syluck —	2,02,968	3	3	1,56,789	10	0
Futtypore —	1,04,356	9	6	40,947	13	0
Bissowah —	1,42,807	13	3	1,01,031	5	3
Sudderpore —	42,838	12	3	35,653	0	0
Maharage Nuggur	33,998	11	0	38,968	10	9
Dimch Sundellee Millabad	1,67,548	0	0	1,67,548	8	0
Mahumdy —	2,75,000	0	0	1,04,351	0	0
Allahabad —	10,03,218	0	0	8,12,87	0	0
Gonda —	4,20,000	0	0	} 6,25,000 (Gonda, Amora, Bustee, Nuggur, Muggur)	0	0
Amora —	1,35,505	0	0			
Bustee —	} 1,17,000 (Bustee, Nuggur, Muggur)	0	0			
Nuggur —						
Muggur —						
Munnooabaury and Mahoneh	1,86,694	15	9	1,40,107	0	0
Coorsy —	54,774	1	6	40,700	0	0
Goruckpore —	4,60,105	0	0	4,52,903	8	3
Bairaitch —	—		—	3,70,344	15	9
Bulrampore —	—		—	81,617	8	0
Baunsee —	11,40,000	0	0	41,804	8	6
Akowna —	—		—	23,501	0	0
Russoolpore Ghoss	—		—	56,409	15	6
Azimgur and Mahole	6,28,163	0	0	5,79,801	0	0
Sultanpore —	9,14,096	0	0	6,00,001	0	0
Sundellee Miliabad	3,60,000	0	0	2,51,140	0	0
Sandy Pally and Shawabad	3,66,000	0	0	2,90,000	0	0
Khyragur —	2,00,000	0	0	2,00,000	0	0
Purtaubgur —	} 7,67,000 (Purtaubgur, Beilker, Disgose, Dullubpore)	0	0	4,70,000	0	0
Beilker —						
Disgose —						
Dullubpore —						
Bysewarrah —	14,23,383	0	0	14,15,579	0	0

Barelly

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Barelly — } Dalmow — }	3,26,000	0	0	} 8,47,705	0	0
Ruddowly } Durriabad }	2,78,849	6	3			
Lucknow —	1,12,000	0	0	55,280	12	3
Mohan —	61,001	0	0	49,578	0	0
Ackberpore —	4,50,001	0	0	2,55,819	15	6
Amaty Rampore	3,26,000	0	0	2,27,696	0	0
The Sayer —	3,81,960	0	0	2,01,005	0	0
Sundry Talooks	4,69,783	0	0	5,34,176	15	2
Manickpore —	1,29,847	0	0	1,60,000	0	0
	2,63,07,811	8	9	2,07,71,740	10	0
Revenues of the year 1190	2,07,71,740	10	0			
Decreafe in the revenues of the year 1190	55,36,970	14	9			

Decreafe as above —	55,36,070	14	9
As far as I can judge from the prefent ftate of the collections, there will accrue a balance upon the whole of the Vizier's revenues a fum not lefs than	35,00,000	0	0

Another actual deficiency, though it does not appear as fuch upon the face of the public accounts, is included in the immenfe charges of collections and military eftablifhments. When the diftricts are let to farm, at the beginning of the year, it has been a great object with the Minifter to prevent the decreafe appearing. If an Aumil, when treating for the farm of a counrry, fhould object to the Minifter's demands, the matter is compromifed, by allowing him nominal charges under the different heads of Nanker, &c. Seybundy, and every particular defcribed as Ekrajaut, Mehall, and Mottayenna. Thefe are increafed proportionable to the increafe of the revenue. Thus the whole becomes a fiction.—From the fcrutiny I have made into thefe matters, if nominal charges were ftruck off, I am perfuaded the revenue would fall fhort

at

at the loweſt calculation, a ſum not leſs than — —	10,00,000 0 0
	1,00,36,070 14 9

The above aſſertion, relative to nominal charges, will be more particularly explained from a comparative ſtate of the revenues, with the charges of collection, amounting to a third part of the groſs ſum. The thing ſpeaks for itſelf: It cannot be urged, as a reaſon, that the troops ſtationed at Lucknow are paid through the channel of aſſignments; they are allowed for ſeparately. One might ſuppoſe that the ſmall body of Mottayenna, or the military, attached to the Aumils which do exiſt, would be well paid: But this is not the caſe; the whole are many months in arrears, and mutinies frequently happen on this account. The following is a comparative ſtatement, which only comprehends the Mottayenna and Ekrajaut Mehall. The Nankar I have omitted, becauſe I have been unable to obtain a correct account of it.

A true copy.
E. HAY,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Comparative

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Comparative Statement between the Revenues of the Vizier's Dominion and the Charges Mehall and Mottayenna, for the Fussulle Year 1190.

DISTRICTS.	Jummah of the Revenues.			Charges Mehall and Mottayenna.		
Corah, Etawa, Sharah, and Jagdisepore	58,56,737	4	9	18,54,885	3	6
Rohilcund, including Lataufit Ally Cawn's Jayudaad - -	45,04,194	3	4	11,51,125	1	1
Khyrabad and Mhaumdy - -	10,86,824	0	0	3,21,391	8	0
Syluck - - -	1,56,789	10	0	1,06,362	4	3
Bissowah, Sudderpore, Maharaje Nuggur, and Aimeh Sundellee Milliabad	3,43,201	8	0	68,359	6	0
Allahabad - - -	8,12,875	0	0	2,95,983	9	0
Gonda Amora Buftee, Nuggur, and Moggur - - -	6,25,000	0	0	2,60,435	8	0
Munnooabaury and Mahoneh -	1,40,107	0	0	29,609	10	0
Goruckpore, Bairaitch Bulrampore Baunsee, Akowna, and Russoolpore Ghose - - -	10,26,581	8	0	5,63,056	6	0
Azimgur and Mahole - -	5,79,801	0	0	4,86,644	11	6
Sultanpore - - -	6,00,001	0	0	3,98,418	6	0
Sundelee Milliabad - -	2,51,140	0	0	1,42,059	8	0
Sandee Paullee and Shawabad -	2,90,000	0	0	1,02,133	0	0
Khyragur - - -	2,00,000	0	0	5,018	0	0
Purtawbgur Beilker, Dingose, and Dullubpore - -	4,70,000	0	0	1,48,142	8	0
Bysewarrah - - -	14,15,579	0	0	1,70,125	15	0
Baielly Dalmow, Buddowly, and Durniabad - - -	8,47,705	0	0	2,41,449	1	0
Lucknow - - -	55,280	12	3	25,820	1	6
Mohan - - -	49,578	0	0	8,782	10	0
Ackberpore - - -	2,55,819	15	6	2,13,166	0	0
Amati Rampore - -	2,27,696	0	0	1,79,938	8	0
The Sayer - - -	2,01,005	9	0	30,182	8	0
	1,99,95,915	13	10	68,03,089	5	0
Sandry Talooks - - -	5,34,176	15	2			
Manickpore - - -	1,60,000	0	0			
Futtypore - -	40,947	13	0			
Coorfy - - -	40,700	0	0			
	2,07,71,740	10	0			

(Against the last four districts, in the Charges column:) I have hitherto been unable to obtain any particulars of these districts, or the charges of them.

In my observations I have omitted the Jaghyres and Furruckabad, not being sufficiently informed concerning them.

Errors excepted,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Sec. to the Secret Dept.

Narrative

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Narrative of Converſation between Mr. Briſtow and Hyder Beg Khaun: written by Hyder Beg Khaun.—Copy received the 4th May, 1783.

Mr. Briſtow came in the evening. His firſt converſation turned upon affairs in Europe; that other Gentlemen were coming, in conſequence of the diſmiſſion of the Governor and others; that the perſon who was coming in the place of the Governor, who was a chief of high rank, was related to Mr. Cowper; that the idea, which lately exiſted, that by the appointment of a former Miniſter, who was the friend of the Governor, the Governor's ſtability would be ſecured, was at length known to be erroneous, for that the Governor's miſconduct was now plainly proved and aſcertained in Europe; "therefore," ſaid he, "it is my wiſh, "that you and I ſhould enter into mutual engagements, "for, by acting in conſort with each other, affairs will "be effectually conducted. I have been recommended in "Europe to thoſe Gentlemen who are coming, and my "heart is every way at reſt with reſpect to my own affairs."

I aſked him for what particular purpoſes it was that he required ſuch ſecurities from me? He replied, "For the "well modelling the Vizier's Government; and furthermore, that you ſhall not enter into any engagements "with any one but me."

I aſked him, What his plan for modelling the Vizier's Government was, in the execution of which he was deſirous of my acting with him? He repeated verbally ſome articles. I called for pen and ink, and wrote them down as he repeated them (vide articles, No. 5.); and then aſked whether theſe were all, or if there was any thing more? He replied, "This plan, after this manner, is "agreeable to the orders of the Governor and the Gentlemen of the Council, directed to be carried into execution; which, at the time of my coming here, they gave "to me perſonally, and delivered to me in writing. Their "orders for the eſtabliſhment of the Perſian Dufter have "been lately written, and received by me; and I have "written to the Gentlemen of the Council, that the ſettlement for the preſent year was made before my arrival, but that I will carry it into execution at the beginning of the next."

I ſaid, "Since ſuch a plan is to be carried into execution "by the order of the Governor General, I will not in "any manner heſitate to obey his orders; but your diſpoſition is ſo doubting and ſuſpicious, that the ſincerity and "uprightneſs of my intentions have been uſeleſs, and of "no avail." That reſpecting his directions (declared by him

him to be the orders of the Governor) that ſuch things were not to depend on the Nawaub's being informed of them, "from an apprehenſion of informed of them," from an apprehenſion of my honour, as he had ſaid that any "evaſions or objections that might ariſe would not "be the Nawaub's, but mine," I had executed them; "that now, from the introduction of the preſent plan, "the authority of his Highneſs would be annihilated alto-"gether; if the Nawaub ſhould heſitate to conſent to this "plan, what were his intentions in that caſe?"

He replied, I will not ſuffer it to depend on the Nawaub's compliance or non-compliance; I will carry it into execution. I anſwered, that I would not, in any manner whatever, diſpute the Governor's commands, for that I was declaredly a dependant on him, and was ſatisfied that whatever he ſhould order muſt be right in every reſpect; but deſired that in caſe I ſhould, agreeable to his (Mr. Briſtow's) orders, execute the buſineſs in oppoſition to the inclinations of the Nawaub, he would procure, for my ſecurity and ſatisfaction, a letter from the Governor directed to me, importing that I muſt act agreeably to whatever he (Mr. Briſtow) might direct; and that I muſt not ſuffer my compliance to depend on aſſent or diſſent on the part of his Highneſs; as in that caſe, if his Highneſs ſhould be offended, I ſhall on this ſide be ſure of protection and ſupport; nay, that it appeared neceſſary, moreover, that theſe articles ſhould be written and tranſmitted to me.

He replied, "I tell you that the Governor is diſmiſſed; "of what uſe is it then to require letters from thence?" I anſwered, that I was a dependant on the Governor; as long as he continued at Calcutta, I would act in obedience to his pleaſure; and whenever the period for his departure ſhould arrive, I would go to him, and would then do as he ſhould direct.

He replied, "All this labour and trouble is unneceſſary: "I offer you the ſecurities neceſſary; being perfectly ſatiſ-"fied and ſecure myſelf, with reſpect to the Gentlemen "who are coming. I will give you a *Coulnamah*, binding "myſelf to ſupport and promote your intereſts both in "Calcutta and in Europe."

I anſwered, that he muſt not conſider my declarations of dependance on the Governor as a matter of profeſſion only; but be aſſured, to a certainty, that whenever poſitive information ſhould be received that he was about to depart for Europe, I would wait upon him, and in whatever manner he ſhould direct, ſo I would act.

"It appears then," he ſaid, "that you will withdraw "yourſelf from the management of affairs here." I re-

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plied, that I executed the duties of my office, in fact, through the influence of the Governor's support; when he was gone to Europe, through the influence of whose protection was I to manage affairs?—that I would not continue.

He was offended at this declaration, and replied, "I am "every way ready to give you security and satisfaction. "Such confidence in the disposition of the Governor, or "in his intimate dependants, is idle and ill-founded; it "is impossible to place dependance on the Governor's "word or declarations."—I said, that hitherto from the beginning his kindness towards me had been always increasing; I had never experienced any deficiency or alteration in his disposition towards me; and that "human "nature is the slave of kindness," was among us a proverb.—Much conversation of this sort passed between us; after that he said, "I will cause the orders I have received "respecting the modelling of this Government to be translated into Persian by my Moonshee, who is a trust-"worthy person, and deliver it to you; you will do well "to follow the example of Mokhtaur ul Dowla, and enter "into a written engagement and agreement with me."

In order to know of what nature Mokhtaur ul Dowla's *Coul Nâmah* was, I proposed to him to give me a copy of it, that I might consider it; but added, that security on the part of the Governor was absolutely necessary in the first instance: That he (Mr. Bristow) asserted that the Governor was undoubtedly dismissed; in consequence of which my faculties and understanding were no longer in the state necessary to do business.

He encouraged me by assurances of his own stability, and said, "The day after to-morrow I shall go to Putterree Ghaut; there I shall have leisure; I will remain "there two days; I will cause the translation of the or-"ders for the modelling and arranging affairs here to be "written, and give it to you on my return."

Considering a respite of three or four days as an advantage gained, I expressed the greatest approbation: Again I repeated the question on this point, whether these were the orders, "That, whether his Highness should be satisfied "or dissatisfied, at all events the business must be done?" —he said "Yes—the orders are absolute: If his High-"ness should prove obstinate, I will not advance any "thing for the expences of his Sircar; I will suspend the "payment of his stipend—when he shall be distressed for "his necessary expences, he will acquiesce of his own "accord."

He then opened to me the real object of yesterday's conversation; saying, there were certain points on which, on the

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the arrival of the new Gentlemen, caution would be necessary.—I asked him, on what points? He said, "Such "as the business of Colonel Cumming, in which a shoka "was written without the Vizier's knowledge; and others "of the like nature which may have taken place: This "circumstance has proved highly disagreeable to the Gentlemen of the Council: Whenever his Highness shall "assert that these things have been done without his "knowledge, blame will fall upon you."

I replied, that in obedience to him I had caused it to be done; that he had repeatedly asked me, "why I introduced the name of the Vizier?" That I must act as he directed; that especially, on the business of the Shoka to Colonel Cumming, he had importuned me for three days, and that, from a regard to the preservation of my honour, I had caused it to be written without the Vizier's knowledge; that the same had been done with respect to the Tuncaw of the Turkswars, and other matters.

He replied—"It is on this account I say to you, that "now you and I are about to be united, you must consider any thing injurious to my reputation, which shall "befal me, as befalling to yourself; and thus any thing of "that sort, happening to you, I shall consider as happening to me. You replied angrily, to my letter, that by "my desire you had affixed the seal of the Vizier, without "his knowledge, to the Shokas, and delivered them."

I replied, that this was not written in anger; that he had accused me of disobeying the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council, and his pleasure; that I, in reply, had inserted the particulars which I had done in obedience to the orders communicated by him, and to his pleasure; that, if I had not inserted them, I should have appeared guilty of the disobedience charged upon me; that, if I had written any thing not founded on fact, he would have accused me of it at the time, or he could do it then, and demand my reasons for such and such false assertions.

He replied, "The things which you write are of such "a nature, that a fair and direct answer cannot be given; "but in certain affairs, which may prove the subjects of "enquiry and accusation against me, it will be better to "keep silence."—I answered, That, with respect to what he said to me verbally, I would act agreeably to his pleasure; but that when he thought proper to put his sentiments upon paper, and give them in writing, if I did not answer them faithfully and fully, I myself should be subject to accusations.

He answered, "I will be careful in this respect for the "future, and not write: Silence however, on this subject, "is necessary on your part, that it may not be known to

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"the Gentlemen who are coming, that the Vizier's seal "has been affixed to papers and shokas without his know- "ledge."—I said, That when the new Gentlemen should arrive, and I should continue here in the management of affairs, I would act in whatever manner he should please to direct.

His object is, that it may not now be discovered that the Vizier's seal has been affixed to shokas without his knowledge; he did not plainly and directly say it, but obliquely and secretly he hinted as much; and said, "The "complaints and reflections which have been lately exhi- "bited against me at the Board, have been disapproved, "and that which I have written has met with approba- "tion; but such matters must not be known to the new "Gentlemen."

Much more he said, containing reflections on the Gentlemen in the Governor's confidence, advice respecting the execution of the plan and the deceiving of the Vizier, so that by throwing him off his guard, the business might be effected; adding, "When it is once done, how will his "Highness be able to remedy it?—Thus it was that "Mokhtar ul Dowla and I, in concert, carried our points, "by representing matters as trivial or advantageous, or by "holding out temptations of various descriptions, to the "Vizier; and when the business was once executed he "was silent, nor knew or foresaw the ultimate conse- "quences which would follow.—In the same manner you "must now advise the Nawaub, as I shall direct you; "and having by artifice obtained his approbation, carry "into execution."

This conversation he span out to a prodigious length; to attempt to write it would be endless.—I said thus much in reply, That, with respect to the execution of measures contrary to the inclinations of the Vizier, as mentioned by him, that I should not hesitate to obey the Governor's orders communicated to me as such; but that to procure a letter of assurance from the Governor, to the purport already mentioned, was absolutely necessary, that I might be secure from the consequences of the Nawaub's resentment.

He replied, "I will cause a Persian translation of the "orders to be made, and give it to you; and we will "after that talk again: assurance of security from the Go- "vernor is unnecessary, since in a short time he will set "out for Europe."—I repeated my former answer. It remains to be seen hereafter what the next conversation will produce.

Account

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Account of the Articles for the Regulation of the country, and habitation of his Highness, which Mr. Bristow caused to be written, as transmitted by Hyder Beg Cawn to the Governor General.

Having appointed a new Treasurer, I will establish the General Treasury of the country in two places; one for the Sircar of the Company; the other for the expences of the Nawaub's household, and household establishments for the Tuncaw and Jaghyrdars. What shall be necessary for the Nawaub's expences, &c. I will issue in money.

I will keep the Persian Duftur of the Governmental Officers and the Mutta Suddies, and will appoint a Dewan to superintend the same.

Having dismissed the Aumils appointed by his Highness, I will appoint other Aumils.

I will keep the cavalry and the infantry under my own authority; and

Propositions for the better Settlement of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Affairs, *really* made, and delivered to Hyder Beg Kawn in Writing, for his Consideration, by Mr. Bristow. Transmitted to the Board in the Resident's Letter of the . . . June, 1783.

1st. The realizing the Company's balance is the first object. This year the bad management of many of the Aumils, and the delaying to settle their accounts in proper time, caused great confusion in many parts of the country. A balance will be the consequence. The year is now expiring; it is proper every distirict should be settled, the extraordinary charges curtailed, and the necessary expences be paid, that the Aumils may receive charge in the beginning of the year, make their arrangements in proper time, and have no excuse for not paying the revenue.

2d. The office of Dewan has been long held by Rajah Soorut Sing, but the Rajah possesses no authority in it, and the accounts I have required were furnished with great difficulty and delay; exclusive of which, persons who have no connection with the office transact the business. It is necessary that orders should be is-

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what other troops may be neceſſary, I will raiſe them alſo by my own authority.

I will keep the buſineſs of the Adawlut under my own authority.

Such expences for ſuperflous elephants and horſes in the Nawaub's Dowaub, and for proviſions dreſſed, are unneceſſary; let him diminiſh them.

I will take the old dufters and papers which are in the Sircar of his Highneſs.

Having diſmiſſed the great Aumils, I will appoint ſeparate inferior Aumils in their places.

ſued to every Aumil and Surriſhtadar, directing them to furniſh, without delay or evaſion, every account the Rajah may require. The accounts of every diſtrict and place, as well as of all the eſtabliſhments, ſhall be depoſited in the Dewan's Cutcherry, for which a proper houſe ſhall be allotted. If accounts once delivered in ſhould ever be changed or altered by any Officers of the Dewanny, ſevere puniſhment ſhould be inflicted on the offenders. You will be pleaſed to aſcertain the different departments of the Dewanny from its Officers, ſpecifying the offices, the perſons who hold them, and every particular ſeparately, and favour me with an account of the whole.

3d. A Treaſurer was appointed for the Vizier's perſonal expences, and a Paymaſter for the army. Provided the revenues had been remitted according to the propoſed plan, the ſum total of them (the Company's aſſignments excepted) would have been depoſited in thoſe Treaſuries, and the particulars of the expenditure have been aſcertained. Notwithſtanding I have called for the account diſburſements, and the balance of caſh, on the day Facoor Doſs was appointed, I have never been able to obtain either; beſides which, the ſaid Facoor Doſs, according to the plan, ought to have been Controller, Mokhtar Muſhruff: He has never been put in charge; and the truſt and confidence which were before placed in him, under his Excellency's Adminiſtration, he has entirely loſt.

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In consequence of the Treasuries not being properly managed, large sums are embezzled, the necessary establishments are not provided for, whilst lacks are squandered in useless expences. It is necessary a General Treasurer should be appointed, to whom all receipts of revenue should be first paid, and afterwards distributed to the subordinate Treasuries.

4th. Funds for the regular payment of the Vizier's personal expeces are the first consideration. It is necessary to do away the disgrace suffered from the distress of the Vizier's household, and the irregular payment of his servants' wages; and for this purpose the sums allotted for the support of his household and servants should be paid into the hands of a separate Treasurer. That the whole sum shall be divided into twelve equal installments, paid monthly by the said Treasurer; no payments to be made except by the Vizier's orders, attested by the Acting Minister; and that no person holding offices in the Vizier's household shall be a Farmer of Revenue.

5th. Large sums would be required to satisfy the list of Jaghyrdars and Tuncadars; owing to his Excellency's want of money, few are paid. The distress has been so great, that the Nabob's brothers, the women belonging to the Zennanahs of the late Vizier, and the Nawaub Burhaun ul Mulliek, have been in want even of the necessaries of life. Some of his Excellency's brothers have sought a subsistence with other Chiefs; it is therefore necessary a separate Treasurer should be appointed for the Jaghyrdars and Tuncawdars, and their pensions be paid monthly, according to the months of the Fussullee year.

6th. It is certain that great sums are embezzled under the head of army disbursements. Many servants on

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the Civil List enjoy considerable emoluments under this head; and there are no good troops existing. Should their services be called for, 12,000, nor even 10,000, could be assembled The few which exist have increasing arrears; and many classed among the troops have obtained service, owing entirely to the favour and interest of Muttasuddies, and the Civil Officers of Government: They are totally unfit for service: The keeping a useless army out of consideration to such a people, is the worst of systems in Government. The cavalry have no fixed establishment. For these several reasons, there is no regularity or discipline in the Vizier's army. Those persons considered as troops should not act under the orders of any person, except their own commanders, and should never follow in the suite of any man.

When I relinquished the Turkswarrh assignments, the Acting Minister promised me, that their just pay should be paid them monthly, and given into the hands of each trooper. The embezzlements, the troopers riding the Vizier's horses, and abuses in this corps, ought to have been corrected; but the pay was issued as usual, and the abuses continue.

You will pleased to furnished with a statement of Tipperchund's office, specifying the particular duties of each department, and the expence attending the whole.

7th. The Acting Minister has repeatedly informed me, that Muster Masters have been deputed to every district; nevertheless, the embezzlements and frauds have not been communicated to me. It is requisite that you should, through Rajah Tipper Chund, inform me of the names of the Muster Masters at every station, and the result of their enquiries

8th,

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8th. The ſyſtem of aſſignment ſhould be aboliſhed, except on account of the Company. The revenue to be depoſited with the General Treaſurer, who ſhall every day give a ſtatement of the bills he may receive.

9th. Robberies and murders are committed to an exceſs at Lucknow; it is therefore neceſſary to eſtabliſh the Phouzedarry Adawlut upon a reſpectable footing.

10th. There ſhould be an office of Aumeen eſtabliſhed for the trial of civil cauſes, diſputed lands, and exactions made by Aumils.

11th. That civil and military truſts ſhould not be united in the ſame perſons.

12th. Whereas the above propoſitions are agreeable to the arrangements ordered by the Governor General; the Acting Miniſter's office, as well as mine, depends on the execution of them.

True copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident
at the Vizier's Court.

True copies.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Nathaniel Middleton, Reſident at Oude, to the Honourable Governor General and Council, Fort William. Dated the 30th December, 1781.

I ſhall take ſuch ſteps as the means in my power will admit of, towards procuring from the Nabob orders to each Aumil to pay his groſs revenues to the Miniſters, and to receive the pay of their troops, being reduced into regular muſtered eſtabliſhments, from the general Treaſury; and ſhould he refuſe, I will iſſue my own, together with thoſe of the Miniſters, to that purpoſe, as I did in a former inſtance, when the Nabob refuſed his Perwannahs for the reſumption of the Jagheers; and ſhall further enforce the execution againſt each diſobeying Aumil, by marching againſt him, and diſplacing him. Theſe three points complete the heads of your recommendations to the Nabob. The fourth article, which was the ſeparation and limitation of

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of his own disbursement to the medium of his receipts for the last three years, having already taken place, and then no assignments will remain upon the country, but those of the Company, as expressed in the treaty.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Nathaniel Middleton, Resident at Owde, to the Honourable the Governor General, dated the 20th March, 1782.

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of some mismanagements having again intruded in the Mint of Lucknow, I have been under the necessity of appointing a Sezauwul on my own behalf, to check and examine every rupee that may be issued from it.

I hope this unavoidable interference with the Vizier's Officers will meet your approbation, as the preservation of the standard here is extremely material to the interest and convenience of the Honourable Company.

In order to complete the check you have directed over the Mooteyennah and their payment, I have been necessitated to appoint an Aumeen to receive and remit to me the collections of Letafut Ally Cawn's Jaidaads, the net amount of which I have pledged myself to send him; and to prevent the misapplication of those funds, which he heretofore so notoriously was guilty of, I have appointed a Muster Master and Paymaster to his corps at Delhy.

True extracts.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident
at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable Governor General and Council, dated Lucknow, 30th January, 1783.

In my address of the 1st ultimo, I also represented the improbability of my realizing the Honourable Company's assignment on Feruckabad; and I am sorry to inform you, the negligence and inactivity of Mahomed Saaied Cawn, the Visier's Sezawal, obliged the Minister to advise his dismission from that trust; and Myrza Mahomed Beg, a man of good character has been appointed in his place. The Nabob Mozuffer Jung deputed agents to Lucknow to complain of the great distress he suffered, and solicited, in the most urgent manner, that a part of the collections should be appropriated for his subsistence. Three lacks of rupees

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rupees per annum is the sum which the Minister recommended to the Vizier, to be paid the Nabob Mosuffer Jung, in proportion to the actual receipts. Mahomed Beg was authorized to settle this matter, and make the payments, but I have not yet heard whether the proposition has been agreed to.

The confusion which had occcurred in the administration of the affairs of Feruckabad, and the repeated solicitations of the Nabob Mozuffer Jung, have induced me to unite with the Minister in the late arrangements, as appearing to me the best that could be adopted under the circumstances which existed. The season was so far advanced as to render the removal of the Sezawal an improper measure, if there had been any probability of the business being well conducted by him; but, by every information I could collect, it left me no alternative, but of risking a very considerable loss to the Vizier, or acquiescing in and supporting the new measure.

The Nabob Mozuffer Jung complained that Mahomed Saaied Cawn had seized upon the tombs and gardens of his ancestors, and sequestered the revenues appropriated for their support. The sum was trifling; and the act disgusted the people, and hurt the Vizier's reputation. I advised the relinquishing any appendage of this nature; and that the new Sezawal should be instructed, by every means in his power, to conciliate the Nabob Mozuffer Jung.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Governor General and Council to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated 3d March, 1783.

We approve of your conduct with respect to the Nabob Mozuffer Jung, and the transaction at Furrockabad.

True extracts.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident
at the Visier's Court.

A true copy of an enclosure in
Mr. Bristow's letter.
E. Hay,
Actg. Sec. to the Secret Dept.

From the Nabob Vizier to the Honourable the Governor General; received 7th April, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I have already informed you fully persecutions and indig-

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to the Honourable the Governor General and Council, dated 4th November, 1782.

I have issued the Vizier's Perwannas to the Aumils and Phousdars, on whom the

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indignities which I have suffered from the hands of Mr. Bristow. The contumely and deprivation of authority which I experience at his hands is redoubled daily. I am every way disposed to fulfil your pleasure. The payment of the Company's demands, I consider as an object superior to all others; and I wish to discharge them in preference to every other approbation.

I entreat you by enquiry to make yourself acquainted with the conduct of Mr. Bristow.—The measures on which he has determined, and which he is carrying into execution, cannot, I am certain, correspond with your sentiments and intentions towards me, or with those [of the Gentlemen of the Council.

He declares that the Government of this country is his by right, for that he has brought orders or authority from Europe; that he will take the entire management of it into his own hands, and with his own hand give what is to be given.—It is his intention to reduce me to the state of a servant, dependent upon him.—I am oppressed to the last extremity, and my life is become a burden to me.

I am ready and willing to pay the Company's monies. —I intreat, as a favour, that you will recall Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper; and permit me the exercise of discretional power for the management the Honourable Company's assignments are granted, and exerted myself in endeavouring to secure the funds for the speedy liquidation of the claims on his Excellency. I am, however, much embarrassed by the engagements made with the bankers on account of their deposit of teeps and bills of exchange on the Presidency. Mr. Middleton informed you of those engagements in his letters of the 7th of September last; and a difficulty will arise in supporting the Bankers in the recovery of sums they may advance, and at the same time my realizing the Honourable Company's current assignments.—I shall submit the particulars of these matters to your consideration in due course of time.

I have strongly recommended the reduction of Almass Ally Cawn's power; and it is with great satisfaction I acquaint you, that by my advice he was deprived of the charge of countries yielding a revenue of sixty lacks a year, in addition of those he has actual possession of. The Perwannas to the Aumils in possession, apprizing them of their removal, had been prepared four days before my arrival; upon consideration, however, Almass deferred dispatching his Naibs until I should take charge of the Residency. About two months ago, he had consented to farm Corah, Etaya, Sharah, &c. The

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nagement of my country, and the payment of the Company's monies. I will cause payment of those monies to be made through the hands of my Ministers in the manner thereafter mentioned; that is to say, Whereas Mr. Bristow has declined taking bills upon the Mahajins for the balance of Teep, for 26 lack given by them, and has taken the Jasidands assigned to those Mahajins into his own hands, and declared that he himself will collect the amount, and remit it to the Company's Treasury; the truth of which you may ascertain from the Mahajins, who have given Teep, and who declare themselves ready to grant bills for the same, if put in possession of the Janidauds originally assigned to them, when your orders, establishing my authority for the management of my country and the payment of the monies, shall arrive, and Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper be recalled from hence; I will procure bills to be granted by those Mahajins to the amount of the balance of the Teep, and transmit them to you, and whatever sums may remain due on the bills for 26 lacks granted by Gopaul Dass Sahoo, from whom Mr. Bristow has taken by violence my Minister's Tummussook, and substituted his own in the place thereof. I will take back Mr. Bristow's Tummussook from the Gomastahs

The power he acquires from these extensive districts, render him a dangerous subject; and, if it had been practicable at this advanced season of the year, I would not have scrupled to have recommended the depriving him of any trust under the Vizier's Government. I had not time to form a certain judgment how far a defection of his people could have been effected: I am told it is possible to succeed in this point, which would doubtless have been the safest mode of acting; but had I failed, by precipitately involving the Vizier in a measure of this delicate nature, or had a considerable loss of revenue been the consequence, I should have been justly exposed to censure.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Governor General and Council to Mr. John Bristow, dated 22d November, 1782.

We have received your letters of the 2d and 4th instant.—We approve of the different parts of your conduct, which are stated to us by these letters. The Bills inclosed in the first, together with those previously received from Mr. Middleton, have been presented for acceptance; and we ascribe the honour paid them to the arrangements made by you for securing the claims of the Shroffs,

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maftahs of the aforementioned Sahoo, and caufe it to be returned to Mr. Briftow; and for what fhall remain due to the faid Sahoo, I will caufe fuch good and fubftantial fecurities to be given to his faid Gomaftahs on the fpot, that no caufe for fufpicion or doubt fhall remain; and with refpect to the prefent year Fuffullee 1190, and the Janidauds for the Company's money fettled and received by Mr. Briftow, and for the amount of which he has taken Tummuffooks from the Aumils of the faid Janidauds, let him be directed to deliver up the Tummuffooks of the faid Aumils to me; and whatever fums may remain due from the faid Janidauds, and payable by the faid Aumils, the fame fhall be remitted to you in bills, kift by kift, by my Minifters; and whatever fums you fhall direct to be paid here from the amount hereof for the ufe of the Company's troops, the fame fhall be paid here, monthly, to the Commanding Officer of thofe troops.

And for the enfuing year 1191, Fuffullee, whatever plan or mode you fhall pleafe to dictate and determine, that plan or mode, on your informing me thereof, fhall be received and ftrictly followed. I will not object to, nor hefitate to fulfil, your pleafure, in any refpect whatever Shroffs, which, as they had the fanction of a formal agreement, you did right to confirm.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briftow to the Honourable Governor General and Council, dated 2d January, 1783.

I take the liberty to inclofe you papers and account, agreeable to the inclofed lift; to which I beg leave to refer for a full explanation of the amount of the claims on the Nabob Vizier.

Immediately after my arrival, I urged the Acting Minifter to advife and recommend arrangements for the complete difcharge of the balance at the conclufion of the year. To relieve myfelf from cenfure, in cafe of failure in this effential point, it is neceffary I fhould explain the tranfaction with the Bankers: The balance at the end of laft year was not in fact paid but transferred to the Bankers, and increafed by the load of a very high intereft. There were two diftinct engagements; one for bills on the Prefidency

for —	22,67,485	2	4
Received in cafh	3,82,514	13	8
	26,50,000	0	0

Another

-ever. If you will please, as a mark of your friendship, to recall Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, and confer upon me discretional authority for the management of my country, and the payment of the Company's monies, with God's assistance I will cause those monies to be furnished and remitted by my Minister, agreeably to what I have written. If any defect or deficiency shall happen, you will on the instant take whatever measures you think proper.

Concludes as usual.

In the Nabob Vizier's own Hand.

I hope, my friend, from your kindness, that I shall be delivered from these distresses, and obtain my request.

A true copy.
(Signed) J. P. AURIOL, Secy.

From Hyder Beg Khan to the Honourable the Governor General, received 7th April, 1783.

Usual introduction.

I formerly represented to you the particulars of the persecutions exercised towards his Highness by Mr. Bristow, and the unhappiness and distress of mind under which his Highness laboured. A repetition of the same circumstances must also have reached your ears thro' other channels, inasmuch as they have come to pass in so public

Another for Teeps, promising bills to be delivered by instalments, at the following periods, and in the following proportions, viz.

Bhadoon	1189	As explained in Mr. Middleton's separate letter to me, No. 2.	6,50,000
Coaur	1190		6,50,000
Cautrick	—		6,50,000
Aughun	—		6,50,000
			26,00,000
			52,50,000
Paid them from the balance of 1189.	—		2,91,116

By this statement you will observe the revenues of the present year have been anticipated in the sum of — 49,58,834 bearing an interest of two per cent. per Mensem. The whole demand upon the Vizier, on account of the Honourable Company and the Bankers, will this year amount to the sum of one crore forty-one lacks two thousand five hundred and seventy-eight rupees (1,41,02,578). Mr. Middleton gave the bond to the Bankers, on account of the first engagement for rupees 26,50,000, engaging to see them repaid that money. The revenues of certain districts

public a manner, as to be known almoſt to every body.

Relying on your goodneſs, his Highneſs has requeſted the removal of Mr. Briſtow, and the grant of diſcretional authority to him in the management of his country, and for the payment of the Company's monies. If you ſhould be graciouſly diſpoſed to comply with his requeſt, and at the ſame time ſo far to favour me, as to appoint me from yourſelf to the management of affairs here, agreeably to the propoſal made to you by his Highneſs, both reſpecting the ſums remaining due on Teep and on Mahajim Bills, and with regard to the preſent year 1190 Fuſſullee, and for the enſuing year Fuſſullee 1191, in any manner you ſhall pleaſe to direct, I will engage, in obedience to your orders, to remit the ſame to you, kiſt by kiſt, in bills; and as much thereof as ſhall be neceſſary for the payment of the Company's troops in this quarter, ſo much, on receipt of your orders, I will pay on the ſpot to ſuch Commanding Officer of troops as you ſhall pleaſe to direct. As I was originally raiſed from the duſt by your hand, and am debtor to you for my rank and reputation, ſo now alſo, aided by your favour and protection, by your patronage and ſupport, I ſhall be enabled to effect theſe objects. If you ſhall pleaſe to honour me with this appointment, as your particular and

tricts were aſſigned to him on account of the Bankers, and were, as collected, to be paid to them.

When Almaſs Ally Cawn returned to Lucknow, a negociation was ſet on foot to transfer the ſecurity from Mr. Middleton to him, and concluded a few days before my arrival. The bond was returned to Mr. Middleton, and Almaſs's granted in lieu of it. The additional diſtricts, propoſed to have been entruſted to Almaſs, were part of thoſe aſſigned to the Bankers; and the Vizier's order, and other documents, had paſſed for putting him in poſſeſſion a few days before my arrival. I was ſo ſoon expected, that Almaſs of his own accord deferred taking charge, as I have already informed you, until the meaſures, through me, receive your ſanction.

When I conſidered the power poſſeſſed by Almaſs, I did not heſitate to reject every idea of extending his authority. A difficulty occurred about the bond he had granted, and a payment he had made to the Bankers of three lacks ſeventy-five thouſand rupees (Rs. 3,75,000). The latter part was eaſily ſettled, by giving him credit for that ſum on account the revenues of Etawa, Corah, &c. but the Bankers refuſed any ſecurity, except mine, in lieu of the bond. The bills of exchange had actually been tranſmitted to the Board, and were in courſe of

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and immediate dependent, with God's aſſiſtance, I will not be deficient in conducting the affairs of the Company's Sarcar, or in obedience to your commands.

Concludes as uſual.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. P. AURIOL, Secretary.

Memorandum:

Hyder Beg Khan has been obliged to make his offer of becoming ſecruity for the payment of the Company's demands general; becauſe it is neceſſary to know the modes and times, in which the Board would deſire the kiſts to be ſtated and diſcharged, before he can be particular and theſe, as the yearly eſtimates. The Vizier and he ſubmit entirely to their deciſion; and when that deciſion is made, the Miniſter will formally make himſelf reſponſible, in ſuch manner, and upon ſuch ſecurities, as they ſhall preſcribe.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. P. AURIOL, Secy.

of payment. To have annulled the engagement, would have diſappointed you of a reſource, and hurt our credit with the Bankers. It was abſolutely neceſſary that Almaſs's bond ſhould be returned to him: I was therefore induced to take the engagement upon myſelf; and I am happy to find, by your commands of the 22d ultimo, that my conduct has been approved of.

Although my attention has been principally directed to the liquidation of the balance, I have hitherto found it utterly impoſſible to procure aſſignments equal to the amount required. Diſtricts have been over-rated to me; and, before I can conclude a fair engagement with any Aumil, I am obliged, in every inſtance, to ſeparate fictitious from juſt eſtimate, which takes up time, and is the cauſe of my not ſending the accounts of the Vizier's revenues, which are now copying, and will be forwarded in the courſe of a very few days.

The Bankers, upon my arrival, claimed my protection in realizing their demands; and, on maturely conſidering the matter, it appeared to me moſt adviſeable to blend the Honourable Company's and their claims under one head. Unleſs I had done this, there would have been a perpetual interference in the collection of the aſſignments; and, in caſe the Bankers ſhould have failed in realizing their monies,

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nies, they would have fallen proportionally short in their payments at the Presidency. These were the reasons which induced me to unite the two accounts; and I hope they will meet with your approbation.

There remains a sum of thirteen lacks, on account of the teeps, for which bills of Exchange on the Presidency are now due. I took charge of my office without any cash in the Treasury, and a sum of near 30,09,000 rupees due to the bankers. I afterwards, under date the 2d November, transmitted you bills of Exchange for 6 50,000 rupees, which (as my receipts at that period were very inconsiderable) accumulated the debt to near 36,59,000; the whole bearing an interest to two per cent. per mensem. The bankers were disinclined to give any more bills, until part of this balance was liquidated. The season of the heavy collections being so near at hand, it appeared to be most adviseable to delay transmitting you other bills, until such time as I might be able to pay the balance due to them, and I could not receive further monies, and give them cash for their bills; by which the Vizier would derive the additional advantage of saving the interest; and the difference of the Company would have been the delay of perhaps three months only in the receipt of the remaining sum of the above-mentioned thirteen lacks, remaining to be remitted to the Presidency on account of the Teeps.

All sums hitherto collected have been paid to the bankers. In order to supply the demands of the Paymasters of the troops in the field, I have borrowed a sum of Fyzd. 16 Sun Sa. Rs. 3,59,670. 4. 4. For this the Vizier is to pay an interest of 1 per cent. per mensem only; whereby a saving of a much more will arise on the interest; and was the reason why I preferred a loan to stopping that amount from the receipts of the bankers.

My time has of late been principally employed in urging the Minister to supply funds for the current disbursements of the Vizier's government, and the complete discharge of the balance due to the Honourable Company. My endeavours shall not be wanting to accomplish an object, which I know will render such essential service to the Company's affairs at the present juncture. The proposed retrenchments will be very considerable, and I shall shortly submit them to your consideration.

Extract

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Extract of a Letter from Mr. Middleton to Mr. Bristow, dated 23d October, 1782.

The most material object I have to claim your attention to, is the collateral agreement concluded by me, on behalf of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, with the house of Gopaul Doss Law, and others, for their security and reimbursement in the advance they were prevailed upon to make the Vizier, upon the credit and faith of this office, for the liquidation of his Excellency's debts to the Company; and which subject you will find stated in my address to the Board of the 7th ultimo.

The advance for which the House of Gopaul Doss singly and exclusively engaged, was 26,00,000 Rs. which included the balance of the Vizier's account current with the Honourable Company, as it stood before the additional claim lately made out by the Accomptant General at the Presidency, and sundry Ary debts of his Excellency, for which, as they were an excess upon the original estimate formed at the commencement of the year, no provision had been made. The other sum of 2,600,000, for which teeps were granted in partnerships by Gopaul Dass, Butch Rauge, Fukeer Chund, and Kissen Chund, payable by installments, as expressed in the teeps, was intended as a deposit in the hands of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, for the liquidation of such part of the additional claim of 26,48,571. 3. 8. made out by the Accomptant General, and transmitted to this office in October last, as the Board, after taking into consideration the counter claims and expectations of the Vizier, should deem equitable. For further information on this head, permit me to refer you to the contents of my address to the Honourable Board, of the 7th September, to which I have received no reply. For both these sums the Vizier has passed his separate obligations to the respective parties, and has granted assignments upon his revenues for the repayment. But this alone, Sir, would have gone a very little way towards inducing the Shroffs to hazard so large a property in the Nabob's funds, had not the faith of our Government also been pledged for their collateral security, which has been done by the strongest verbal assurances it was in my power to give them, in my official capacity; and in the case of Gopaul Dass Saw, who is much deeper concerned than any of the others, a written engagement to support him to the utmost of my power in the recovery of his debt, for which Almas Ally Cawn stands immediately and exclusively responsible. He has already paid him to the amount of nine lacks, promising four more in the course of fifteen or twenty days; and the remaining thirteen lacks he agrees to make good in

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equal kists, in the ensuing three months of Aughun, Poose, and Maug, which I have not a doubt of his punctually fulfilling, if you think proper to confirm the assurances I have given, and yield your influcnce to the support of them; which I persuade myself you will see the propriety of, as well from a principle of common justice, as an inducement to similar future exertions, should the exigency of the Honourable Company's affairs at any time call for them. The other advance of twenty-six lacks being secured by assignments upon reputable Aumils, I have little fear of its being realized. without giving you any further trouble than that of giving your sanction to the measure, and occasionally making use of the influence of your station to expedite the payment of the kists, when the Aumils may shew a disposition to be tardy.

Copy of a letter from Mr. Middleton to Mr. Bristow, dated 23d October, 1782.

Herewith I have the honour to deliver you the teeps mentioned in my Treasnry Account and public letter of this date, for 26,00,000, viz.

One teep of Monseram, in behalf of Gopaul Doss, for 13,00,000, payable as follows:

In Bawdon	1189	—	3,25,000	
Kaur	1190	—	3,25,000	
Kautic	——	—	3,25,000	
Aughun	——	—	3,25,000	
			———	13,00,000

One teep in the name of Butchrauge Fuker Chund and Kissen Chund, payable as follows:

In Baudon	1189	—	3,25,000
Kaar	1190	—	3,25,000
Caulice	——	—	3,25,000
Aughun	——	—	3,25,000

I have to inform you, that the first installment of the above teep has been paid, and remitted to the Honourable the Governor General and Council, as you will perceive by my Treasury Account.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to the Honourable Governor General and Council, dated the 3d June, 1783.

Agreeable to your orders of the 12th ult. I have transmitted Bills of Exchange for three lacks of Surat Rs. on Surat, and for two lacks on Berhampore of the rupee current at that place, in favour of Col. Chas. Morgan, or the officer commanding the detachment, and forwarded them to Mr.

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Mr. Anderſon, with a requeſt to tranſmit them by the moſt expeditious conveyance. The exchange I have procured on Surat is 120 Lw. Sas. for 100 Surat Sicca rupees, and on Berhampore 115 Lw. Sas. for 100 of the currency of that place, which, upon a calculation, is, I underſtand, about 7 As. 2 Pe. per Ct. higher than the remittances to Genl. Goddard. The Bankers aſſert, that the caſh to anſwer the ſaid bills muſt be conveyed in ſpecie; that the inſurance upon the tranſportion of it amounts to between 8 and 9 per Ct. to Surat, and between 7 and 8 per Ct. to Berhampore; and alſo, that an improvement of 2 or 3 per Ct. in the coin of Surat has lately taken place. Theſe circumſtances conſidered, I hope it will appear that the remittance has been made upon as reaſonable terms as could be expected.

I requeſt the favour of knowing if any further ſums will be required by Col. Morgan, as I am making the arrangements for the enſuing year, and would wiſh to have timely notice of every demand.

It is with the greateſt pleaſure I inform you, Gentlemen, that I have concluded an agreement with the houſe of Gopaul Doſs for 15 lacks of rupees, payable at the Preſidency, with a reduction of 1 per Ct. per month in the intereſt, and 4 per Ct. in the exchange, making 16 per Ct. per annum upon the remittance of the laſt year. I expect to receive the bills in the courſe of two or three days, when I ſhall commence another negotiation for 15 lacks more, and ſo on, until I obtain as large a ſum as I am able, to ſupply the Company's demands at the Preſidency. I did not chuſe to inform the Bankers of the ſum total I might require, as they would have exacted higher terms than I ſhould think it juſtifiable to grant. The plan I propoſe for the re-payment of the Bankers is, to engage that, after ſupplying the diſburſements of the troops under the command of Colonel Morgan and Colonel Sir John Cumming. and the expences of the Reſidents, all ſurplus receipts ſhall be paid to them; the Nabob to be charged with the intereſt. I requeſt the favour of your commands, whether you authorize my granting bonds in the Honourable Company's name, as a ſecurity for theſe engagements. My Accomptant is employed in making out an eſtimate of the probable receipts and diſburſements, and it is my intention to procure you a remittance of the whole balance. I have avoided perplexing this tranſaction by mortgages of the Nabob Vizier's revenue, or any nominal transfer of the debt; the matter is ſimply a loan from the Bankers at 16 per Ct. ſaving to Government, upon the engagement of laſt year.

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Copy of a Letter from the Honourable Governor General and Council to Mr. John Briſtow, dated the 16th June, 1783.

We have received your letter of the 3d inſtant, informing us of the remittance which you have made, in compliance with our orders to Colonel Charles Morgan.

If we find it neceſſary to increaſe the ſupply to his detachment from your ſtation, we ſhall give you information of it before you can have made any material progreſs in the arrangement you ſpeak of, to prevent.

We approve of the agreement which you have made with the houſe of Gopaul Doſs, for the immediate remittance of 15 lacks of rupees, by bills to the Preſidency, at a ſaving of 16 per Cent. upon the Exchange of laſt year; and of your intention to perſevere in this mode, until the whole balance due from the Vizier to the Company ſhall be completely paid off.

True copies and extracts,
J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident
at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy of an incloſure in Mr. Briſtow's letter.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Extract of Bengal Secret Conſultations, the 11th Auguſt, 1783.

From Hyder Beg Khan to the Honourable the Governor General.—Received 1ſt May, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

The ſituation of affairs here, from the behaviour and conduct of Mr. Briſtow, I formerly repreſented to you. What has ſince occurred is as follows:

His Highneſs, laſt year, appointed Moulurri Moubeen, a man learned in the laws, to preſide over the Court of Adawlut; and, from that period, all ſuits between contending parties have been determined by him, agreeably to the Shurra, and the deary of ſuch ſuits and deciſions thereon by him is forthcoming. To eſtabliſh his authority over every department of Government, and to annihilate that of his Highneſs, are the objects of Mr. Briſtow. He has appointed Mr. Cowper Dorogah of the Adawlut; and Mr. Cowper, with the authority of a ſuperior lord or maſter, has wrote his awards or duſtkhut on the petitions of complainants, ſuch as concerned the Aumils to execute, to them; and ſuch as belonged to the city of Lucknow, to the Vizier; and theſe petitions, thus ſuperſcribed by him,

he

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he sent to me, directing me to cause the seal of the Nabob to be affixed to them. I answered, That I would represent the matter to his Highness. I represented it accordingly, and shewed him the petitions superscribed by Mr. Cowper. His Highness said, That they were evidently instruments of his dishonour, and of the extinction of his authority, inasmuch as he had superscribed the petitions of the country complainants with his dustkhut, directed to the Aumils, and of those of the inhabitants of the city, to him, as if he were the Cutwal of the city of Lucknow, and that he would never submit to it; desiring that these circumstances might be written to you, that whatever might be your pleasure in his behalf, you might act agreeably thereto. I waited on Mr. Bristow, but did not inform him of my representation to the Vizier; I only told him, that such petitions, so superscribed by the dustkhut of Mr. Cowper, had been received, and that Mr. Cowper had required the Nabob's seal to be affixed to them; adding, that if he ordered me so to do, I would represent the business to the Nabob. He replied, That it was not in fact necessary to inform the Vizier; whenever he should settle and arrange the plan of the Adawlut, I might represent it to him. After this he asked me, if I had received any intelligence from Calcutta. I replied in the negative. He then spoke of affairs in Europe; that the Governor General, and other Gentlemen of the Council, were dismissed: And he then proceeded to reflect on your conduct in such a manner, that neither at the time had I the power to endure his reflections, nor have I now the heart or hand to write them. I said on this occasion what my tongue enabled me to say, respecting your qualities; observing, that owing to you, appearances were supported and kept up towards the Chiefs of Hindostan; and that if, which God forbid, you should go to Europe, even those appearances would remain no longer, and that a world would be involved in ruin. Mr. Bristow was offended at this observation: He said, that he he had not spoke of the Governor but at the time when he was dismissed; if he had not been dismissed, he should not have mentioned these things. He then proceeded to say, that in the same manner as the Government at Calcutta had been new modelled, in the same manner the Government here should be new modelled; adding, "Enter into engagements with me; I also, on my "part, will give a Coul Naumeh to you under my hand, "and we will jointly new model this Government." I demanded to know in what manner; he replied, "I will "send out other Aumils over the Nabob's country—Soorat "Sing, the Dewan of the Surcar, is grown old—I will "appoint a new Dewan—I will take the Dufter account of

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"the revenues of the Sircar with my own hands—I will
"have the whole military eſtabliſhment, by the forming of
"new troops under my own authority—I will appoint ano-
"ther Treaſurer, and keep up the public Treaſury in a
"ſeparate building, under the charge of my own people;
"and I will iſſue to the Vizier, in ſpecie, as much as may
"be actually neceſſary for his expences. When I ſhall
"requeſt it you ſhall advance ten or twelve lacks of rupees,
"to defray expences, from your private property; and you
"muſt engage not to write on affairs here to Calcutta.
"We Engliſh gentlemen are all united together, as one
"perſon; and in the end it will not be well for you ſo to
"do. If you will enter into engagements with me, agree-
"ably to theſe conditions, ſo much the better; we will
"act in concert in the management of affairs: If not, I
"will, on the ſtrength of my own power, do as I have
"declared; and you muſt not again complain that I have
"deprived you of the excluſive powers of your office."
I, who was ſtricken dumb and confounded by what he had ſaid reſpecting you, replied, That I would return home; and, having weighed and conſidered the buſineſs, would reply to every particular. At my two ſucceeding viſits to Mr Briſtow, he again renewed the propoſal reſpecting the Cowl Nameh; to which I replied, That I was ſubordinate to him; that with reſpect to the management of the affairs of Government in concert, I would, in ſubordination to him, and to the utmoſt of my power, fulfil his commands—that no other engagements, but thoſe of obedience, ought to be entered into by an inferior with his ſuperior. He was offended at this anſwer. At this juncture his Highneſs took leave of Mr. Briſtow, and went on an excurſion to hunt. Mr. Cowper again ſent me a meſſage, importing that, his Highneſs being abſent from Lucknow, I ſhould affix my own ſeal to the petitions which he had ſuperſcribed, that the awards might be carried into execution. I waited on Mr. Briſtow, and repreſented theſe circumſtances, relative to the buſineſs of the Adawlut, &c. Mr. Briſtow made me no anſwer. Two days after, he wrote me a letter, to which I replied; I have ſent copies of both; they attend your peruſal. He tells me his Highneſs has no knowledge in theſe matters; but all theſe evaſions come from me. Mr. Cowper iſſues his duſtkhuts to the Nabob, as to an Aumil, or the Cutwal of the city; in addition to which he ſays, "What does the Nabob know of theſe
"matters? you muſt enforce them without his know-
"ledge." His Highneſs deeming it derogatory to his honour, and ſubverſive of his authority, refuſed to comply. I have been raiſed from the earth to rank and honour by you, and am every way prepared to fulfil your pleaſure.

Mr.

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Mr. Briſtow is determined in his reſolutions reſpecting Mr. Cowper's authority over the Adawlut; the appointment of a Dewan to theſe Soubahs; the taking poſſeſſion of the dufter accounts of his Highneſs's Surcar; and the appointment of a new Treaſurer, that he may have the general Treaſury of the whole country under his diſtinct and ſeparate authority. Whatever may be your orders with reſpect to theſe affairs, thoſe I will obey: I will not evade compliance with your commands. Such is the conduct of Mr. Briſtow. He ſays, that whatever meaſures he directs, I muſt execute, without regard to the neceſſity of informing the Vizier; otherwiſe he, of his own authority, will execute them His Highneſs, from a regard to the preſervation of his honour and authority, refuſes his conſent. Thus circumſtanced, whatever ſhall be your orders, thoſe I will obey, requeſting permiſſion to repreſent them on your part to his Highneſs, who conſiders his proſperity and well-being to depend upon you.

Concludes as uſual.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident
at the Vizier's Court.

From the Nuvvaub Vizier, to the Honourable the Governor General.—Received March 28th, 1783.

Uſual introduction.

From the commencement of the friendſhip between the late Nauvaub and you, and the Gentlemen of the Council, on this ſide, there has been no deficiency. In conſequence of the interchange of turbans between you and the late Nauvaub, I look up to you, as to the brother of my father.—My country and my dwelling are yours. I have on all occaſions ſtudied your pleaſure, and the ſatisfaction of the Gentlemen of the Council. You, on your part, have ſtill acted in a manner correſponding with the duties of friendſhip and affection, and I feel and acknowledge the obligation.

The diſpoſition and conduct of Mr. Briſtow were formerly known to you. You lately wrote to me, that having included him in the number of your choſen and ſelect friends, you had ſent him here. And Major Palmer, agreeably to inſtructions from you, returned from Cawnpore to Lucknow, to adviſe and encourage me: this he did, recommending attention and regard to the inclinations and ſatisfaction of Mr. Briſtow.

Mr. Briſtow, at his firſt interviews, aſſumed the diſguiſe of affability and kindneſs. His firſt propoſal was, that I ſhould

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should intrust him with the management of my household; if I would, he said, he would conduct the business of that department in such a manner as should give me infinite satisfaction. I replied, that for the interest of the Company's Circar, he had full public powers, and that I approved of them from my heart, as the means of confirming and strengthening the friendship between the Company and me, and that I would comply with every thing he might propose for the benefit of the Company's Surcar; but that, in my household concerns, there was not any thing of such importance as to render it necessary to trouble him.

In a few days, he assumed a line of conduct correspondent to his disposition. To attempt a particular and minute account of it, would be vain and fruitless: Not one circumstance which could be productive of indignity, contempt, or the annihilation of my authority, has he left unperformed.—Shokas, respecting the regiments and other matters, he has caused to be written, through Hyder Beg Cawn, without my knowledge.—He has sent a Suzzawal to Furruckabed contrary to my inclinations, and is preparing to send Suzzawuls to other places.—He has strictly forbid my Ministers from writing to you on the state of things; declaring, that if any one presumed to write a single circumstance of the transactions here to Calcutta, he would call him to a severe acconnt.—He sent a message to me, directing me to appoint a Treasurer and Comptroller of his choosing; that the monies from the Mahaluts, assigned for the expences of my household establishments and domestics, should be paid to the above-mentioned Treasurer and Comptroller, and kept in a separate house allotted to that purpose; that people sent by him should be stationed there for its protection; and that what was necessary should be expended with his knowledge, and under his direction.

I replied, that every one throughout the whole empire, from the highest to the lowest, had the direction of his own household establishments and domestic; and desired to know, whether he would deprive me of that authority also? —He answered, That such were the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council, and he would execute them.—I represented to him, in the most earnest and forcible terms, by message, that this measure would be of no benefit to him, but that it would cover me with indignity and dishonour in the eyes of all mankind; that it would be said, the Navaub Vizier was so completely divested of all power and authority, that, by the appointment of a Treasurer and Comptroller, he had no longer any command over his household establishment and domestic servants.—This message had no effect.—He came to visit me, and asked, why I entertained apprehensions from the appointment of a Treasurer and Comptroller?

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Comptroller? that he proposed it with a view to the regulation of my affairs.—He had said at first, that neither he nor Hyder Beg should have any concern in the appointments of the Treasurer and Comptroller, but that I should appoint whom I thought proper. I replied, that the appointments of Treasurer and Comptroller to my household would be a disgrace to me.—After that, he proposed that I myself should take upon me the management of all my affairs, and that the Ministers should be dismissed.—As I knew that this proposal for the dismission of the Ministers was made with a secret view to the full establishment of his own authority, in order to sound his intentions, I observed, that in the time of Muktar ul Dowla similar conversations had passed between us; and, that, when I wanted to do it, he himself protected him.—He replied, That I might now do whatever I thought proper with respect to the Ministers; that he would give it under his hand and seal, that they should not receive protection either from him or from the Gentlemen of the Council.—I said, that the Ministers had hitherto committed no crime worthy of dismission; but that I wished he would give up the intended appointments of Comptroller and Treasurer.—He replied, That he had orders to that purport, and that it was not in his power.—Here the conversation ended, and he retired.

Again he repeated his message for the appointment of the Treasurer and Comptroller. I said, in answer, that the Jaghyres of my parents, my relations, my friends, and my officers, were all sequestered; that they had no means of subsistence; and that it was my wish to admit them all to a participation in the little which remained to me; but that he would not permit even that: That he threw a cord about my neck, to prevent my eating my morsel in ease and comfort; that the miseries of my friends, relations, and Jagheerdars filled me with the deepest distress: To that he added these disquietudes: and I entreated him, for God's sake, to leave me at rest.

He again visited me in person, saying, I desire you to appoint a Treasurer and Comptroller, your Highness refuses to acquiesce to-day. I tell you plainly that my orders are peremptory; that, whether you may be pleased or displeased, I will at all events appoint a Comptroller and a Treasurer, will call in the money from the Janidauds, and will issue it under my own authority for the expences of your household.—I replied, in whatever you may propose for the benefit of the Company's Sircar, I am ready to acquiesce; but to an arrangement of my household, so disgraceful and pernicious, I also will never agree. I will not consent to be deprived of my proper authority, and to receive from your hand the subsistence for my domestic servants, and the animals

mals of my houfehold. If your orders are peremptory, give to me a copy of the orders of the Gentlemen of the Council. My feal is forthcoming; I will fend it to you, and you may do my violence whatever you may think proper. I will fhut up the doors of my houfe; there I will fit, and feclude myfelf from all fociety.—He replied, it was well; he would give me a written copy of the orders from the Gentlemen of the Council. I might fend my feal; he would at all events execute the meafure.—He then rofe and retired.

For two days repeatedly I fent my feal to him by the Moulavvee, that he might do whatever he thought proper; and then he faid, that if I would not affix my feal voluntarily, my feal was unneceffary. He would fend letters under his own feal, and would himfelf appoint a Treafurer; to which I returned no anfwer.—Accordingly the Tunkhaw monies, which came in, he delivered to Mr. Cowper, and Mr. Cowper appointed a man, named Dechait, to the office of Treafurer.

Whatever he choofes to have written to any one, he caufes drafts of Shokas to be made out by his own Mounfhee, and fends them by Sheick Shuffer Ullah. Sheick Shuffer Ullah's Khedmurgar caufes them to be written by my Mounfhee; and, having caufed my feal alfo to be affixed to them, carries them away. Hence you may form a judgment of the extent of my authority, and of that of my Minifters.

He brought forward, and carried into execution, a reduction of the troops; and that too without confulting me, even as a common Sura-rifhtedar. He threatens my Minifters, telling them to act as he directs, otherwife he will caufe them to be turned out of their offices. The Minifters, influenced by the terror of this menace, obey him; and this he conftrues into the management of affairs, with the advice and approbation of the Minifters of my Sircar.

The whole city, and many of the Gentlemen here, are acquainted with the indignities I fuffer. My fituation, my friend, although I am every way devoted to your pleafure, is wretched beyond meafure; my friends and my relations, the Jagheerdars, and the officers of my Government, are ftarving. By enquiry inform yourfelf of the actual fituations of thofe people. Such is my own condition, that Mr. Briftow throttles me, as it were, in order to force the morfel from my mouth.

I am made wretched to extreme by this conduct of Mr. Briftow. If you will give me leave, and write to me to that purport, I will come to you. Allow me not to be rendered contemptible in this country, where we have lived for three generations in honour and profperity. I will come

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come to you, and I will make no complaint; either do this, or deliver me from the hand of this man. I am devoted to your pleasure: I will not object to any thing; whatever you may direct, agreeably to that I will act. If you are solicitous to promote my prosperity, confer upon me discretional power over my country, and for the payment of the monies to the Company. By heaping these miseries and indignities upon me, Mr. Bristow has engaged for the payment of certain sums, after obtaining a perfect knowledge of my situation. Whatever may be the mode on which you shall determine, be pleased to inform me thereof, and I will cause the monies to be paid to you through the hands of my Ministers. If any deficiency or default of payment shall arise, do on the instant whatever you shall think proper. In freeing me from these indignities, you will procure a lasting reputation to yourself.

Concludes as usual.

P. S. In the Nuvvaub Vizier's own Hand.

My distresses and unhappiness, my friend, exceed all bounds. This is the time for kindness and generous affection. I entreat that I either may obtain my request, or that you will call me to you.

A true copy.
(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident at
the Vizier's Court.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor General; dated the 12th December, 1782.

I have endeavoured to conciliate the Vizier, and never undertaken any measure but under the sanction of his orders. Hyder Beg Cawn did, upon my first entering upon the business, mention his Excellency's objections to the mode of receiving the Company's claims, by assignments on the country; and sounded me, whether it would not be practicable to induce you to make an alteration in the system; he even told me, the Vizier expressed his disapprobation of the detachment under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming. His Excellency had agreed to defray the expence of four regiments, previous to my arrival; but he wished the troops might not be stationed in his dominions. Of this transaction you have received information. The Nabob told me, at my second interview, that his country was in peace, and he did not require any further military aid from the Company. This language corresponded with what I had reason to expect from your expla-

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explanation. I candidly told Hyder Beg Cawn, I considered it dictated by him. When I afterwards furnished him with the estimate of claims upon the Vizier, he assented to the amount, and assured me of his entire conviction of the necessity of the detachment, and that the Vizier would approve of its being stationed in his dominions. Since this conversation, Hyder Bey has not pleaded any objection by the Vizier, as obstacles to my measures; but has obtained his sanction, on every occasion, that I have found it necessary in the execution of my duty.

Hyder Beg Cawn confesses to me, that funds to the amount of forty-nine lacks of rupees were last year appropriated to the Vizier's expences: From this sum he was to defray not only the charge of his household, but the pensions of the Tuncowdars and Jaghurdars, whose Jagheers were resumed. The nature of the disbursements you will understand from the statements.

I think the sums charged could not have been applied to the services for which they were allotted; the persons entrusted with the great offices about his Excellency's person must have abused the confidence reposed in them, as large arrears are due to the Nabob's servants. To ascertain the fact, will require time. I have recommended that the plan you have thought proper to direct, in regard to the Vizier's expences, be carried into execution; and shall, in due time, communicate the intended arrangements for your approbation. Notwithstanding the language occasionally held by the Vizier, I have every reason to believe he is sensible of the advantages he derives from his alliance with the Company, and of his inability to support himself without it. You are so fully acquainted with his character and disposition, that I shall not presume to trouble you with any particulars of his conduct; I only hope, in compliance with your directions, so long as I may have the honour to hold my present station, that I shall be able to obtain his confidence, and prevent expostulations, which might interrupt the confidence and cordiality that ought to subsist between his Excellency and your Government.

I believe the principal object of the Vizier's expostulations was, to prevent any interference in the government of his dominions, and to remove his apprehensions of the Company's placing him in the same situation as the Nabob Mobarack ul Dowla. He one day expressed himself to me, on this head, in very strong terms. I assured his Excellency, nothing of the kind was intended. I recommended it to him, on no account, to credit reports of this nature; and entreated him to withhold his confidence from persons, who might endeavour, by such insidious representations, to alarm his mind. He had always, I added, received strong

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strong proofs of the respect and regard you personally entertain for him; and the steadiness of his conduct had tended to confirm and perpetuate the friendship and alliance subsisting between his Excellency and the Honourable Company. I beg leave, before I conclude this head, to inform you, an opinion had prevailed of their being divisions in the Councils of your Government. I hope I have done my duty in representing, both to the Vizier and the Ministers, that the whole is a palpable falsehood.

It has been my study to render, as public as possible, my testimony of unanimity in the Members of Administration, that the shadow of a hope of evading or protracting the execution of your measures may not exist.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor General and Council, dated 21st January, 1783.

I beg leave to inform you, the allowances, on account the Jagheers and Tuncaws, were recorded upon the Vizier's books at the following annual account; viz.

The Jagheers - -		39,38,054	4 6
The Tuncaws - -		17,19,610	0 0
The proposed allowances on account the Jaghyres, agreeable to the statement No. 2.	22,68,671		
The proposed allowances on account the Tuncaws, agreeable to the statement No. 1. - -	10,25,214		
		32,93,885	12 0
Reduction per annum - Rupees		23,63,779	8 6

Even in the present reduced state, the amount is very high; but, considering the persons to whom they are granted, being principally the Vizier's relations, the old dependants of his family, or the servants of Government, it would be difficult to make further reductions, particularly as most of them were persons living in great affluence, and now depending solely upon the bounty of the Vizier for a subsistence.

The funds for the payment of these allowances can only be procured by the savings and reductions of useless and unnecessary expences. In all arrangements, however, the Vizier's personal charges, the army, and the Honourable Company's claims, will be the first provided for.

The Honourable the Governor General, in his instructions at Chunar Gur, dated the 23d September, 1781, directed

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rected the late Resident to carry into execution the stipulation the Vizier had entered into for the regulation of his personal expences. No measures have yet been taken in this business; and I now beg leave to submit to your consideration the heads of the plan which I have recommended to the Vizier; viz.

1st. That the sums appropriated for defraying the wages and allowances of the Vizier's servants, and the departments of the household, should be deposited under the charge of a Treasurer.

2d. That the monthly expences of the Vizier's servants, and the departments of his household, should be fixed, and paid by the said Treasurer, without fees or deduction.

3d. That no monies should be issued except by the Vizier's warrant, and the official attestation of the Acting Minister.

4th. That persons holding the great offices of the Vizier's household should not be entrusted with other employments, or be farmers of, or any way concerned in, the collection of the revenue.

In explanation of the 1st head, I beg leave to inform you, the Vizier's servants have constantly suffered great distress from the irregular payment of their wages and allowances. Arrears of many months are due to the greater part of them; a few only have received their right, and they are principally the persons at the head of the departments. Money is often procured with difficulty for the stables, kitchen, elephants, buildings, and other current disbursements, The Acting Minister asserts, that upwards of forty-nine lacks was last year appropriated to the Vizier's expences. Out of this were paid not only the charges of his household, but part of the allowances to his Excellency's relations, compensations to persons whose Jagheers were resumed, and also pensions to the dependants of the Vizier's family, many of which originated in the reign of the late Nabob Suza ul Dowla. In proposing that funds, on account of the Vizier's household, "shall be deposited under charge of the Treasurer," I mean in a public chest, agreeable to the Honourable the Governor General's instructions; and that one key should be kept by the Treasurer, and one by the Acting Minister, or any great officer of state to whom you may direct me to advise the Vizier to entrust so important a charge. The second head entirely conforms to the Honourable the Governor General's instructions, and needs no explanation. On the third head, I would submit to your consideration, whether an officer, in the character of Aumeen, should not be appointed, to see the establishments were not encroached upon; and, on his

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his ſtating objections, that payments might be ſtopped until the Vizier's pleaſure ſhould be known; and if his Excellency, on conſideration, repeated his orders for his warrant paſſing the Treaſury, it ſhould then be valid.

The evil which the fourth head propoſes to correct, is the principal cauſe of the Mal-adminiſtration of the affairs of the Vizier's houſehold. The ſame men being farmers of revenue, or Aumils, and ſuperintendants of departments about his Excellency's perſon, makes a confuſion of accounts, and gives them an opportunity of withholding payment, and often appropriating the funds to the ſupport of expences which are not to be conſidered as requiring the firſt ſupplies. For inſtance, I think buildings, matters which relate merely to ſtate, ſuch as Kelauts, &c. ſhould be provided for after the payment of the ſervants' wages, ſtables, and other particulars, which may be ſtated in the light of neceſſaries.

This is the outline of the plan I have propoſed for regulating the Vizier's houſehold; and I entertain great hopes, that from a leſs ſum than has hitherto been appropriated on that account, every department will be amply furniſhed. Probably a ſaving may accumulate at the end of the year from the introduction of regularity into the mode of iſſuing the diſburſements, now eſtimated at the ſum of thirty-two lacks of rupees.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor General, dated 21ſt January, 1783.

I have this day tranſmitted to the Board ſtatements of the Vizier's receipts and diſburſements; in explanation of which I beg leave to trouble you, No. 1. and 2. with the particulars of the reduction on account the Jaghyredars and Tuncawdars. Your long adminiſtration of the Honourable Company's affairs will have furniſhed you with an intimate knowledge of the characters and connections of the principal perſons at this Court, and may make it preſumption for me to trouble you with any further detail, than to explain the principles upon which the reductions are propoſed.

The Vizier's relations, the old ſervants and dependants of his Excellency's Government, were conſidered as entitled to penſions. In many inſtances, perſons have been put upon the liſt, who were never paid even a ſmall part of the ſum granted them. Without any real pretenſion to the Vizier's bounty, they obtain theſe penſions, which were, in a manner, at the time conſidered as nominal; though the granting them was ſufficiently impolitic, and

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established a plea for future claims. The list, in its present state, was formed by Hyder Beg Cawn, who urged the distresses of the persons retained upon it; that if their pensions should be struck off, they had no possible means of procuring a subsistence; and many of them had been granted allowances by the late Nabob Suja ul Dowla.

The Jaghgudars enjoyed a more certain income than the Tuncawdars, and were, in general, persons of high rank, or in the confidence of the Vizier. Many of the persons, whose Jaghyers have been resumed, will be thrown entirely upon his Excellency's bounty for subsistence, particularly the Orderlies, who are none of them continued upon either of the lists. It was the Minister that recommended the sum of thirty-two lacks for the Vizier's personal expences, though thirty only were mentioned in your instructions to me, as having been formerly settled. I did not object, because he gave, as the reason, that he could be answerable that the Vizier would be satisfied with it. I have no doubt but a considerable saving will accrue; and every exertion in my power shall be made to realize the balance, and accomplish the points you have so strictly enjoined. I think it my duty, in the course of the execution of the reform, to explain the particulars; that, in case the proposed plan should not meet with your approbation, I may receive your commands.

I hope the intended arrangements will establish in these provinces a greater force, for less expence, than has hitherto existed.

Copy Statement of allowances proposed to be granted in lieu of the resumed jaghyers, for the Fussullee year 1190.

	Allowances.			Proposed to be paid.
The Newab Begum	1,91,222	0	0	1,00,000
His Excellency the Vizier's Assuf ul Dowlah's mother —	5,84,816	0	0	
His Excellency the Vizier's Begum —	48,450	0	0	48,450
Nawab Salar Jung, his Excellency's uncle	4,64,666	10	0	2,00,000
The family of the late Mirza Ally, Do.	1,52,000	0	0	1,00,000
The sons of Do. —	1,70,000	0	0	85,000
The sons of Bund Ally Cawn —	30,000	0	0	
The Nawab Mudder ul Dowla —	60,000	0	0	30,000

Nawab

Nawab Imanmul Deen Cawn —	12,000	0	0	12,000
Huffein Reza Cawn —	24,699	13	6	
Nawab Fyzoola Cawn	15,00,000	0	0	15,00,000
Nudjuffabaden Jaguere the late Nudjef Khan, now in the name of his fifter	14,500	0	0	14,500
Meer Khyzulla —	14,000	0	0	7,000
Mirza Huffein —	21,000	0	0	6,000
Rajah Joat Loll —	48,000	0	0	
Teppoo Chund —	10,000	0	0	5,000
Govind Ram —	17,000	0	0	17,000
Bifhund Sing —	10,000	0	0	
Almafs Ally Cawn —	30,000	0	0	
Amber Ally Cawn —	30,000	0	0	15,000
Chufh Nagur Ally Cawn	12,000	0	0	6,000
Affrun Ally Cawn —	40,000	0	0	20,000
Meer Suddick —	10,000	0	0	
Raja Bowanny Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Mooby Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Nudder Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Holafs Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Sobah Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Newaz Sing —	30,000	0	0	
Rudderam Shoogul —	28,185	14	6	
Roy Hoolafs Roy —	12,500	0	0	3,500
Mirza Fuzull Ally —	13,100	13	0	6,000
Furkand Ally Cawn —	10,000	0	0	6,000
Suforr Ally Cawn —	3,451	0	0	1,700
Mirza Huffeen Ally —	2,263	0	0	2,263
Ally Ackber Cawn —	8,630	0	0	6,000
Khain Cawn and Hingan Cawn	55,293	5	6	18,000
Heckmut Huffein Cawn	6,000	0	0	
Mahomed Rear Cawn —	6,000	0	0	
Hubbee Beg —	12,000	0	0	12,000
Mungoo Beg —	10,000	0	0	10,000
Selaum Ulla Cawn —	6,000	0	0	6,000
Nander Huffein Cawn —	6,000	0	0	6,000
Meer Zeah Deen —	6,000	0	0	
Burr Gear Sing —	6,000	0	0	
Buftum Ally —	6,000	0	0	
Mohun Sing —	6,000	0	0	
Behadre Sing —	6,000	0	0	
Gholaum Cawn —	6,000	0	0	
Mahommed Ghofe —	6,000	0	0	
Sey Fulla — —	6,000	0	0	
Meer Umjud —	8,051	0	0	4,000
G ofulph Cawn, father of Abdal Khamun Khan —	4,015	0	0	4,015

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Khanjah Nemaul Ulla —	4,031	13	0	2,000
Hussein Atta Cawn —	5,668	0	0	5,668
Moonshee Bassel —	400	0	0	400
The family of the late Mahomed Ally, Commandant, who was killed on service	2,134	0	0	2,134
Mahomed Wudjee —	600	0	0	600
Mahomed Suffer —	500	0	0	500
The family of the late Khamut Ally —	1,808	15	0	900
Mahommed Ally —	2,135	0	0	1,085
Bussunt Ally Cawn —	2,637	0	0	2,637
Mirza Ruffee Soada —	2,370	0	0	
Mudder Buxch —	214	0	0	314
Meer Mahodah —	1,211	0	0	605
Mahomed Fazel —	400	0	0	400
	39,38,054	4	6	22,68,671

[The difference between the allowances and the sums proposed to be paid, is 16,69,383 4 6.]

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 11th of Rubbu ul Owal, 1197, 14th February, 1783.

A list of the purwannahs issued by the Nabob Vizier to the respective Aumils, on account of the junkhan monies for the expence of household, together with the statement of the particular sums, accompany this letter; but I have kept the purwannahs in my own hands, as they have not yet received the signature and seal of the Vizier.

If, by another effort, you can bring this business to a conclusion agreeably to my wishes, so much the better; if not, it will be necessary that letters, agreeably to the inclosed draft, be written by me, and by you, and transmitted to the Aumils. In case his Highness should refuse his assent, you will write the letters from yourself, corresponding with the inclosed draft, and bring them with you, as I shall send them off to-morrow with my own letters, which are now ready, and written to the same purport, to the Aumils.

The Governor General is at all events determined on the improvement of the Nabob's affairs.—From my reliance on you, I have been led to postpone this matter during a long period; but, as I consider the further procrastination of it as a breach of the Governor General's orders, and as the cause of the disarrangement of all public business, therefore from an attention to the regulation of affairs in general, it is

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is out of my power to defer it any longer.—Thus, in consequence of my friendship for you, I have not, down to the present time (which includes a period of threee or four months) communicated the accompanying extract from the Governor General's letters, having still relied on you for the accomplishment of this business. Now, from absolute necessity, I write you plainly, to reflect and meditate with attention on the mischiefs which must follow (to you) from delay in such matters as these; such delay being the cause of the disorder and disarrangement of all affairs.

In short, you say that his Highness refuses to listen to your representations in this business. This, too, is full of danger, with respect to you. You are the Nabob's deputy, possessing unlimited authority; yet you represent and lay before him measures of importance, and are unable to obtain his assent to them: whenever the confidence of the Nabob Vizier is withdrawn from you, and necessary measures can no longer be carried into execution, the business is at an end. I am every way disposed to countenance and support you; but I cannot deviate from the orders of the Governor General. It is proper that you do not postpone this business, or the muster of the Turksowars, beyond our meeting to-morrow morning.

Let no one but you and I obtain a knowledge of the contents of this letter.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General to Hyder Beg, inclosed to him in the preceding Letter to Mr. Bristow.

The first is this: To shew how thin the veil is by which you attempt to cover this policy, and of course to convince you, that I shall receive and construe every declaration, however made to me, from the Nabob, and every letter written in his name, tending to destroy or lessen the friendship subsisting between us, as your declaration, as your letter. The second is, That as I do not so much ascribe these artifices to you, as to the evil counsels and encouragements which you have lately received from other persons, whose names I need not mention, you may see and know on what terms you may expect hereafter to retain that friendship and support which I have hitherto given you.—For the rest, I refer you to Mr. Bristow, to whom, both verbally and in writing, I have communicated every tittle of my sentiments, intentions, and expectations, upon this subject.

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Translation of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour: agreeably to your commands, I will make the representation to his Highness, and will communicate to you, in person, what he may please to say in reply. The letters to the Aumils, I will write, and deliver to you, agreeably to your orders. You are pleased to say, that from your reliance on me you have refrained hitherto: That if, possessing an entire authority "in the Sircar of the Vizier, I declare that he refuses to "attend to my representations, the worst consequences are "to be apprehended therefrom to me; inasmuch as I am "the deputy of the Nabob, possessing unlimited authority, "yet represent and lay before him measures of importance, "and am unable to obtain his assent to them: That "whenever the confidence of the Vizier is withdrawn from "me, and necessary measures can no longer be carried into "execution, the business is at an end."—Although to reply to these particulars of your pleasure, is to deviate from the respect due from the obedient; yet when, without cause and without fault, the hour of crimination arrives, to represent the real state of things becomes unavoidable.—My power and authority in the Sircar of his Highness, is the gift of the Governor General; and I have hitherto received the support and assistance of the gentlemen in power here. Regardless of the enmity of the people at this Court, and continuing their animosity, I have continued to do my duty; and, in return for faithful services, I have been included in the object of the Governor General's favour.—From you I hoped for an increase of support and assistance, of credit and of power. It must have proceeded from a change in my own fortune, and not from any deficiency of favour on your part, that my representations, by the efforts of enemies, have been rendered ineffectual.

From the moment of your arrival, I have not, in any manner whatever, been deficient in obedience; but have in every business, and without hesitation, fulfilled your commands, of whatever nature they might be. As in the important business respecting the regiments at Futty Gurr, the execution of which you were pleased to direct should not be suspended by attention to the Nabob's permission, or by the necessity of informing him thereof, in the same manner, in every business whatever on which I have received your orders, at whatever time received, and whatever the nature of them, I have paid the most implicit obedience to those orders on the instant. From my first appointment to the Niabut, I have been enabled to conduct the affairs of both Sircars, which I have ever considered

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dered as one and the same, by the assistance and support of the gentlemen here; and have, on all occasions, acted in obedience to their directions: and thus I have repeatedly represented to you, that, on condition of support and assistance, I would execute all your commands; and that, in the affairs of the Company, I was ready to fulfil the commands of the Governor General, those of the gentlemen of the Council, and your pleasure, without hesitation or evasion, at the hazard of my life; inasmuch did I consider my own interest and prosperity as depending thereon.

When you formerly spoke to me respecting the Turksowârs and the household establishment of the Nabob Vizier, I then informed you that I never had any concern in the management of those establishments; that this circumstance was known to the whole world; that they were under the direction of the Vizier's own people, and that he never would voluntarily consent to the measure. You told me in reply, "That the Governor General's orders "were to be obeyed, and so I must inform the Nabob"

I, on my part, told his Highness, in the most pointed terms, that there was a necessity for his compliance with whatever proposals you should make, by the Governor's order, for the improvement of his affairs. But other people, at the same time, carried messages from you to the Nabob, importing that, whatever his pleasure might be, you would act agreeably thereto; nay, you even went so far as to recommend in person to the Nabob, that I should not be employed in these affairs, but that he should conduct them as he thought proper himself. Other expressions dropt from you, with respect to me, which I know not how to repeat; for such I never could have expected from you. This being the case, in justice consider, that, having expressed yourself as you did express yourself, what authority, or influence, or respectability, can remain with me? The conduct of this business did not depend upon me, and therefore the delay cannot have arisen from neglect on my part. Several people have been employed in conferences on this subject with the Nabob Vizier, by your orders.—Now that, from motives of kindness and favour, you have directed me to forward this business, and added declarations respecting support and assistance, I am, as I have always declared, ready to obey. To whatever you shall please to command, I shall never object; and I am every way ready to obey your orders in the execution of affairs, independent of the inclinations of the Nabob Vizier, if you will assure me of support and protection, in case of his displeasure: I have never yet objected, nor will I now object. Devoted and powerless as I am, the

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increase of my respectability and influence depends upon your favour towards me, and their diminution proceeds from opposite causes. Thus I have ever acted; and this I have repeatedly declared, and I now repeat, that in the affair of both Sircars I am ready to obey the orders of the Governor General, and the Gentlemen of the Council, and yours, at the hazard of my life, and without evasion or excuse. The delay which has hitherto come to pass in this business, has not in any manner proceeded from neglect on my part; the negociation of this affair did not depend upon me. Whenever I spoke to his Highness on the subject, he always replied, "Mr. Bristow has told me that "you must have nothing to do in these affairs; why then "do you talk to me on the subject?—leave it to me and "Mr. Bristow." This particular I have heretofore fully and repeatedly mentioned to you. Now that, from motives of kindness, you have favoured me with your commands, I am ready to obey them; I will act agreeably to your directions: If you had favoured me with them formerly, they would have been instantly executed; no delays would have intervened. I wished, the day before yesterday, to lay this representation of the state of things before you, but was deterred by my apprehensions of your aptness to anger. As I entertain the fullest hopes from your favour, I have at length ventured on this communication of my situation.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 11th Rubby ul Owul 1197, 14th February 1783.

I am informed his Highness is impressed with suspicions at the appointment of a Treasurer, lest it should be the means of my assuming the controul of his expences; and, in like manner, the officers about his person apprehend a retrospection into their accounts. The sole object of it is this: That all disbursements may be made agreeable to his Highness's own warrants, attested and signed by you: Retrospection was never thought of or intended.——I write these circumstances for your information. As such matters do not fall within my province, I must trouble you to represent the particulars to his Highness, and impress them on his mind.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour. I will represent every circumstance to his Highness, and, when I wait on you, communicate his commands to you. Your information may

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be true, but the foundation of his Highneſs's diſapprobation proceeds from the cauſes I have aſſigned. I will attend on you early to-morrow, and again repreſent the circumſtances to you.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 12th Rubby ul Ewul 1197, 15th February 1783.

* I requeſt you will inform me what has been ſettled with his Highneſs, concerning the Comptroller and Treaſurer.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

His Highneſs has agreed, that Lolla Takoor Daws ſhall be Comptroller; Dooarka Daws, Treaſurer; and Raja Tepper Chund, Paymaſter to the Turkſawârs, &c.—and has ordered them to be muſtered. Drafts of Shokas, to the purport which I explained to you, by his Highneſs's orders †, and of which you approved, I will preſent to you to-morrow; and agreeable to your injunctions, cauſe them to be written.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 16th Rubby ul Ewul, 19th February 1783.

‡ The meſſage you ſent, relative to the Nabob's having deferred the buſineſs of the Treaſury, was delivered to me by Raja Tecket Roy.—If this buſineſs could be finally ſettled to-day, it were better; at all events let it be finiſhed to-morrow, by the appointment of a Treaſurer, as all the arrangements are at a ſtand, and numberleſs inconveniences muſt reſult from any delay. With reſpect to his Highneſs's commands, that I ſhould write to the Governor for his conſent to poſtpone this arrangement, I ſhall not fail, in obedience to them, to ſtate very fully every circumſtance concerning it. In conformity to the Governor's expreſs

* *The reaſon of writing this letter, was in conſequence of an interview which had taken place between the Reſident and the Miniſter, the morning of the day it is dated; and at which every thing was amicably ſettled, agreeably to the Nabob's expreſs command, as explained by the Miniſter.*

† *The foregoing note is proved from the tenor of this letter.*

‡ *This letter was written in conſequence of the Miniſter's engagements having, as uſual, ended in evaſion and delay.*

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orders; and from motives of respect and attachment to his Highness, it is, that the prosperity and regulation of his Highness's affairs are the objects ever present to my thoughts, and for the happy accomplishment of which I am particularly solicitous.

On a separate Paper, inclosed in the above.

S. S. In my letter to you of the 11th, wherein I explained myself to you very fully, you will certainly recollect an observation I made to you, that every evasion and impediment, on the part of the Nabob, would, by the Governor, be attributed to you alone. You should reflect on the force of this observation—That professions of duty and attachment, unless verified by a correspondent conduct, were vain and idle; and that the test, both of the one and the other, required by the Governor and the Nabob, was the immediate execution of the orders which had been repeatedly enjoined you, and were still unperformed.

Translation of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated the 16th of Rubbee ul Owal 1197, 19th February 1783.

I have received your letter, telling me, "that my message, through Raja Tecket Roy, of his Highness's having delayed the matter of the treasurer, was communicated to you."—Whatever the Vizier may have commanded on this subject, I told you; and whatever you have directed me, that I have represented to his Highness. This day he repeated the same sentiments as before. The particulars I stated to you through Raja Tecket Roy, that when I informed his Highness of your commands regarding the appointment of a Treasurer and Mushruff, for the good of his affairs, agreeable to the orders of the Governor-general, I found people had created new doubts in his mind. You demanded an explanation of these doubts. I endeavoured in your behalf, as also in compliance with my duty to the Governor-general, to cause them to subside. His Highness was pleased to say, that notwithstanding the appointment of a Treasurer threw a slight upon him, as he should no longer preserve any authority over his household, he was helpless, and would consent upon this condition—"That you would afterwards intercede with the Governor-general to set aside "the appointment, and return the Tuncaws on account "of the Turksawârs, for which a separate treasury had "been

" been eſtabliſhed under the charge of Mr. Cowper: his " Highneſs requeſted their pay might be iſſued by him- " ſelf, or, as uſual, by Raja Tipper Chund."—You returned for anſwer, " My object is to do the buſineſs; it " did not ſignify: I agree."—In conformity to your order, I repreſented to his Highneſs your readineſs to intercede with the Governor, and return the aſſignments on account of the Turkſowârs, after the Treaſurer and Muſhruff ſhould be appointed. The following day, I preſented you with the draft of the letters. " You ap- " proved thoſe on account of the houſehold, and rejected " thoſe on account of the Turkſowârs, ſaying they were " unneceſſary; whatever had been done before in that " reſpect ſhould remain. The money ſhould be paid to " Mr. Cowper: when the pay was to be iſſued, you " would ſend it to his Highneſs, that, if it was his " pleaſure, he might have it paid to the troops through " Raja Tipper Chund. A Shoka addreſſed to you, to " this effect, would ſuffice."—At all times I yield implicit obedience to your commands. This day I preſented the letter relative to the houſehold for his Highneſs's ſignature: He ordered thoſe which had been written on account the Turkſowârs to be brought to him. I firſt ſolicited his Highneſs to ſign the Shoka on account the houſehold, which I ſhould carry to you; and the day after I would bring thoſe concerning the Turkſowârs.—His Highneſs earneſtly requeſted that the whole might be made out at one time. I then repreſented to him, that altering the Tuncaws reſpecting the Turkſowârs was unneceſſary; a letter to you, directing you to ſend him the money, when the pay was to be iſſued, would ſuffice. His Highneſs expreſſed his diſpleaſure; charged me with having, without his knowledge, blended the Company's and the Turkſowârs aſſignments; and, now that it had been agreed to return them, " I had not done it." His Highneſs would not conſent to ſign the letters on account the houſehold: He ſaid he would do what had been ſettled; and he ſuppoſed, after what had paſſed, that, when the Treaſurer was once appointed, you would not intercede with the Governor. I replied, his Highneſs might depend upon your interceſſion. He anſwered, it was evidently intended to diſpoſſeſs him of all power, and diſgrace him, as you would not alter the aſſignments on account the Turkſowârs, agreeable to your promiſe. What more could you do againſt him?—I repeated my repreſentation to his Highneſs without effect, and ſent you information of all that had paſſed, through Raja Ticket Roy; aſſigning the true reaſon for the delay in the appointment of the Treaſurer. Agreeable to your orders, I

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ſhall, early to-morrow, preſent your letter to his Highneſs, and inform you of his commands.

You inform me, in a ſeparate paper, that you had written to me fully on the 11th inſtant, from which I could not fail to be convinced, "that the Governor will conſider every "evaſion on the part of his Excellency ſolely as my act; "that I ſhould conſider the force of this obſervation, "That profeſſions of duty and attachment are in them-"ſelves vain, and muſt be ſupported by facts and real "ſervice. It reſts with me to prove the ſincerity of my "profeſſions, by carrying into execution the orders which "have been repeatedly enjoined, though they are ſtill "unperformed: That it is by this teſt alone that the "Governor and the Nabob will now be decided as to the "reality of my duty and attachment." The day I received the letter, I did myſelf the honour to repreſent to you my ſituation, my want of power, &c. as alſo that my duty and attachment had, from the firſt moment of your arrival, led me to conform, on all occaſions, in the moſt important as well as trivial matters, to your pleaſure, with or without the participation of his Highneſs. I further fully explained to you, at the ſame time, the reaſons which had induced a delay in certain affairs. In proof of the ſincerity of my intentions, I beg leave to obſerve, that notwithſtanding the Nabob repeatedly expreſſed his reſentment, that I ſhould iſſue any ſhokas without previouſly acquainting him, I, on this occaſion, furniſhed you, unknown to him, with ſhokas, on account of the Turkſowârs Tuncows, which I had drawn out agreeably to the mode you had thought proper to preſcribe. I ſeveral times informed you of the Nabob's diſpleaſure on this head; and your commands were, that I ſhould take no heed of it, ſince the buſineſs muſt be ſettled as you had ordained. In your letter of the 14th inſtant, you directed me to write letters; and I accordingly wrote them, and have them in readineſs: now alſo they are ready. I obſerved, in my letter, that I muſt depend upon your protection, to ſhield me from the Nabob's reſentment in this reſpect. Notwithſtanding all theſe written teſtimonies, you obſerve, that no dependance is to be placed in profeſſions of duty and attachment, unleſs ſupported by correſpondent conduct. I have never hitherto deviated in the ſlighteſt degree from my duty, and even now I am ready. You repeatedly gave me to underſtand, that you was reſolved to admit of no delay in this affair, and that it did not depend upon the conſent or non-conſent of his Highneſs; wherefore do your demur about it? If ever I diſobey your directions, in conformity to the Governor-general's orders, then charge me with a crime.

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Had I intended to delay the dispatch of the business, why did I write the letters? I prepared them that very day you ordered them, and kept them by me ever since. You accuse me of an offence of which I am not guilty; nor, by the grace of God, shall I ever be to blame. I have not departed a hair's breadth from the duties of obedience, nor shall I ever do it. I am ready to sacrifice my life in the discharge of my duty to the Governor-general, and in obedience to your orders.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor-general, dated the 4th March 1783.

I now beg leave to inform you of my transactions in the execution of your orders, relative to the institution of public offices. I have met with great opposition; but as your commands left me no discretion, and a strict obedience became my indispensable duty, I deferred addressing you until I could state the matter in a clear point of view.

The funds allotted for the Vizier's personal expences were administered in a most shameful manner; for, notwithstanding the large sums hitherto appropriated on this account, you will doubtless have been advised, from the report of every individual who has resided in this country, as well as from my communications to you, of the distress in the Vizier's household; particular departments having been left totally unprovided for, and the servants kept many months in arrears. In my opinion, thirty-two lacks, the sum fixed at his Excellency's particular request, is much more than can be fairly expended: but it was urged to me, that the resumption of the Jaghyres and reduction of pensions might cause great distress; and it would be pleasing to the Vizier to have the means of providing for part of his family and dependants entrusted to his own bounty: and further, that forty-nine lacks had last year been left to his Excellency's disposal; and the difference, amounting to seventeen lacks, was in itself a considerable reduction.

I had furnished Hyder Beg Cawn, above two months since, with the plans; and entertained hopes that, by his address and influence with the Vizier, I might avoid the opposition that a public declaration of your intentions would create. Above a month elapsed, during which time no progress was made in the business.

The fact is, whilst the revenues were managed solely by Hyder Beg Cawn, he held in his own person the offices of collection and treasury; the Vizier was on all occasions

occasions compelled to apply to him for the daily supply of the current disbursements of his household.—The Nabob had thus become entirely dependant upon his minister, and a dangerous influence was assumed over his Excellency's mind: he was compelled to speak the sentiment of his minister, or exposed to the danger of having his income withheld. Hyder Beg Cawn disclaims holding any controul in these matters; but this is an assertion with out proof; and I may safely affirm, that he has hitherto had the entire disposal of the Vizier's treasures.

Had the immense sums appropriated to the Vizier's personal expences been applied to any useful public service, either in a provision for his family, in pensions to deserving servants of the government, or to the pay of any part of the army, I should not be so anxious to represent the necessity of a reform. The whole is dissipated among the orderlies; a set of men of low birth, and no pretensions, who are a burthen to the state; living in affluence, whilst the army and every useful member of society are left in want of the necessaries of life.—A striking instance of the peculation that exists in the Vizier's personal expences has occurred within these few days, in Jao Loll, the superintendant of his buildings, who has promised a payment of sixty-three thousand rupees to the Vizier, for frauds committed in his office. His Excellency is at this time employed in a scrutiny of a similar nature, into the accounts of every superintendant of the different departments, from each of whom he will most probably exact restitution, and, as usual, receive the offender again into favour.

I was told by Hyder Beg Cawn, the Vizier peremptorily rejected my propositions, pleading that he should no longer be an independant Sovereign, if the Company's agents interfered in his personal expences.—This answer was repeatedly returned, through different persons, whom his Excellency selected to convey his sentiments to me. Hyder Beg Cawn charges me with employing agents with the Vizier, which caused the loss of his authority, and occasioned his failure in the points I had recommended.—I returned answers to all his Excellency's messages, but I never employed any persons on my own behalf. The substance of my representations was uniformly the same, that I only had in view the prosperity of his affairs, which could not be effected by any other means than establishing regularity in the administration of his finances, and in this I would consult his pleasure. I objected to any mediation, and requested the matter might be debated by the Nabob and myself. I maintained that your intentions had been misrepresented to him, that it was your wish his income should be entirely at his own

disposal,

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disposal, and not squandered away without his knowledge or assent. In conformity thereto, I recommended a treasurer and mushruff, for the department of his household, and that the revenue, as collected, should be paid into a public chest, from whence the disbursements should be issued agreeable to his warrants; but, upon the present system, his treasure was appropriated to purposes he never intended; that general distress had prevailed, and must continue, till regularity should be established. When the treasurer for the household was first proposed, I recommended that Rajah Tipper Chund should hold the office. Hyder Beg Cawn objected, upon the plea of his being in a declared opposition to him, and that his appointment would in fact be depriving him of the Niabut. I yielded to his objections, declaring it a matter of indifference to me who the man might be, so that a treasurer was appointed. The Nabob afterwards, in an interview with me, of himself proposed Tipper Chund, of which I informed the minister, who then affected to have conquered his objections, provided I would give him assurances of support; I acquiesced, and took it for granted all difficulties were adjusted; but, to my great surprise, the next time I paid my respects to the Vizier, he had changed his mind, and would have no treasurer. Hyder Beg Cawn, after several days altercation, informed me the Vizier had at last assented to the appointment of a treasurer, but he now insisted that Tipper Chund should not be the man; I returned for answer, it was certainly in his Excellency's breast to appoint whom he pleased; and a banker of the name of Dooarkar Doss was the person he finally nominated to the office. The intended Mushruff Tacoor Doss is a dependant of his Excellency's government, and a person whom I have no knowledge of, except by character.

When Tipper Chund was set aside, the Vizier informed me he had no objection to my having minute accounts of his disbursements, only he wished to preserve his dignity, and appoint his own servants. He considered Tipper Chund already in the charge of the office of military paymaster-general; and it was not his pleasure to make him treasurer of the household. I am persuaded these reasons could only have been suggested by Hyder Beg Cawn, as the Vizier had privately sent messages to Tipper Chund, information of which he himself communicated to me, requesting he would undertake the office.

I readily agreed to the nomination of Dooarkar Doss, that the Vizier might be convinced there was no design, concealed under a specious appearance, of leading him into a dependance on the Company's agents for the funds

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of his houfehold. In regard to Tipper Chund, he certainly holds the appointment of military paymafter-general; but Hyder Beg Cawn has hitherto poffeffed the actual power of that office, and the accounts are prepared by his agents.

I made a further trial of Hyder Beg Cawn's difpofition. The plan of your new fyftem was left, as I faid above, upwards of a month in his poffeffion, without my once touching upon the fubject with the Vizier, during which time he amufed me with daily hopes of obtaining his Excellency's approbation. When I at length experienced his difinclination to move in the bufinefs, my only alternative was to infift on a compliance; which fuggefted the idea to Hyder Beg Cawn that he had loft his influence, of which he took advantage, to make excufes for further delays. It was his advice to me to hold very peremptory language to the Vizier; but this I declined, as I did not chufe to incur his Excellency's difpleafure, and thus eftablifh a confidence in Hyder Beg Cawn's attachment, upon the ruin of my own influence. I was directed, and my own inclination prompted me, to treat the Nabob with the higheft refpect; his difpofition was well known to me, and I was fenfible, if it fhould be neceffary, that I could conduct the bufinefs without agents or mediators: I wifhed the act might appear voluntary on the part of the Vizier, and his confequence and authority be preferved entire in the eyes of the natives. The fact, in my opinion, is, that Hyder Beg Cawn, fenfible the inftitution of offices will check and controul his conduct, has purpofely protracted the bufinefs, in hopes that an appeal to you might move a change.

In proof of his wifh to protract the bufinefs, he repeatedly advifed me to appoint my own Munchy to the office of treafurer; which I deemed highly improper, and he muft have been highly fenfible of it himfelf: I declined fuffering any of my own fervants or dependants to hold offices of truft and emoluments.

The neceffary orders are iffued to put the treafurer of the houfehold in charge of his office, upon the plan propofed in the enclofed letter to Hyder Beg Cawn; the appearance of the Vizier's dignity and authority is preferved, and I will endeavour to fee that the difburfements in future be made agreeable to your commands.

The Turkfowârs, though part of the beft cavalry in the Vizier's fervice, have been moft fhamefully neglected; there are now ten months arrears of pay due to them; they would have mutinied if it had not been for my interference: three months will be iffued to-morrow, and the balance fecured to them. Shortly after my arrival I folicited,

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solicited, out of an unappropriated balance of eleven lacks, set against Almass Ally Cawn, that nine lacks should be allotted for the support of the Turksowârs. The minister, under various pretences, evaded compliance; at last the assignment was granted; and then it appeared, that five out of the eleven lacks had been paid, by Almass Ally Cawn, agreeable to prior orders which he had received, and of which Hyder Beg Cawn never apprized me. I procured all together six lacks and eight thousand rupees on Almass, and about two lacks on other Aumils. His Excellency remonstrated against this assignment going in my name; to which I answered, as I had uniformly done, that it was a matter of total indifference to me through whom the pay to the army was issued; I did not wish these people to be under my authority, and my having asked him for the assignments was the effect of necessity, I would readily relinquish them upon the appointment of a proper officer; that in future the troops might be paid in money, agreeable to the commands with which you had been pleased to honour me. I have not scrupled being very explicit with Hyder Beg Cawn, and have now taken the liberty to submit, in the most unreserved manner, to your consideration, the particulars of my transactions with him, on two of the most material points of your new system. I have given authority and consequence to Hyder Beg Cawn's office, and propose leaving him in the general controul of every other department; but, as nothing can relieve the country from the distress in which it is involved, but the most rigid execution of your orders, I shall not suffer it to be any longer impeded by the intrigues of individuals, however high in rank. I have, in obedience to your commands, employed Hyder Beg Cawn; his professions are fair; but, until I determined on executing, by my own authority, the measures which the Vizier had rejected, I could not get any business of importance settled.

The conduct of Hyder Beg Cawn was to be expected; it can hardly be hoped, that men should willingly become the instruments to reduce their own influence and advantages. I have endeavoured to impress upon his mind your unalterable determination of executing the new system; and he had to make the choice, whether to obey your commands, or expose himself to your displeasure.

You can only decide, whether my suspicions of his secretly counteracting my representations are well founded. I consider a disunion between us as likely to affect the public business, especially as Almass Ally Cawn and Khoja un ul Dien were upon the spot, and a combination might have been formed between the three, to interrupt the col-

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lections; I have therefore come to an accommodation with him. As the basis of it is implicit obedience to your orders, I hope no future cause of differences can arise between us; I shall, on my part, most cautiously avoid them.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 20th Rubbee ul Owal, 23 Febr. 1783.

* For the better regulation of the Vizier's household, I proposed to his Excellency that he should direct the amount of the Dowab assignment, &c. to be paid in specie at the Huzzoor, and appoint a treasurer and mushruff to take charge of it, and to make the disbursements regularly, agreeably to his Excellency's pleasure, and by his orders. His Excellency appointed Dewarkur Doss treasurer, and Fakoor Doss mushruff of the household, and Raja Tipper Chund paymaster of the Turksowârs, which I was happy to acquiesce in, from my attachment to the Nabob; and the Nabob directs that the treasurer should be placed under charge of his officers at Punjunahal, and that I should return the Shokas issued relative to the Turksowârs Tuncows.—I conform to his Excellency's commands in both respects: that the treasure should be committed to the charge of his officers at Punjemahal; the Dewaub assignments, &c. to be publickly disbursed, agreeably to his Excellency's warrants, bearing his own signature, and the counter sign of the minister, by the treasurer Dowarkur Doss, and the knowledge of Mahomed Hussein, ostensible mushruff, with the consent of Takoor Doss; that Rajah Tipper Chund should disburse from his treasure the amount of the Turksowâr assignments: secondly, that the Shokas heretofore issued, relative to the above assignment, shall be sent back.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 27th of Rubbee ul Owal 1197, 2d March 1783.

I understand that Mirza Hussein has placed a man in the treasury office, which was put under the charge of Raja Tipper Chund, agreeable to the plans settled between us. Whereas the said Mirza has nothing to do in this matter, his interference is very improper: it is requisite he should withdraw his man. You will please to

* *This letter was dictated by the minister, agreeable to the original draft, in the Resident's possession, when every thing was finally concluded, upon the most amicable terms.*

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inform me of the fum depofited in the treafury on the 20th inftant, the day Lalla Takoor Dofs was appointed.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

Agreeably to your orders, I reprefented to his Highnefs that Mirza Mahomed Huffein had nothing to do with the pay of the Turkfowârs, and that the money fhould be depofited under the charge of Raja Tipper Chund: his Highnefs will undoubtedly comply with your injunctions. For fome days that I have been indifpofed, I have not attended the prefence: I will to-morrow wait upon his Highnefs; and, on afcertaining the balance on account of the houfehold, call upon and inform you of the particulars.

Tranflation of a Letter from Mr. John Briftow, Refident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 5th Rubbee ul Sany 1197, 9th March 1783.

A confiderable fum is allotted for the fupport of the Vizier's brothers. I underftood they have not received a hubba for thefe two years paft: I therefore trouble you, at all events, to pay them. You will pleafe to let me have a ftatement of their account, that the balance due may be difcharged, as they are in great diftrefs.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour.—Owing to the negociation concerning the Treafurer and Comptroller, the payment of the allowances due to the Vizier's brothers has been fufpended, and very little has been paid to them: they will now receive their ftipends regularly. Laft year this bufinefs depended, agreeable to the Vizier's orders, upon the Molovy; having afcertained the particulars from him, I will reprefent them to you. The penfioners receive their ftipends according to the Mahomedan year, which commences four months before the Fuffully year: the whole added together will make a period of fixteen months, and is the caufe of the diftrefs they fuffer.—This difference between the two years is a circumftance of which I have repeatedly apprifed you.

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Translation of a Letter from the Nabob Vizier's Brothers, Myrza Hyder Ally, Myrza Juniat Ally, Myrza Syfe Ally, to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court. Received the 9th March 1783.

The manly and generous conduct of the English gentlemen towards all nations, is as clear as the sun at noonday. So well known is the favour shewn by the Company, the Governor, and you, to our late father, and our whole house, that it is unnecessary to write the particulars. We before this communicated to you, through Myrza Ismael Beg, some general circumstances concerning our distress; to which you returned for answer, That you would cause two thousand rupees a month to be paid to each of us, and ask us to visit you. It is some time since we received this message; and we go on without any means of subsistence, and in the utmost misery, entirely upon the hopes of your friendship. Apparently, from the multiplicity of business on your hands, you have forgot your promise. Our situation is not fit to be represented. For two years we have not received a bubba on account our Tuncow, though the ministers have annually charged a lack of rupees, and never paid us any thing. After all, we are the sons of Suja ul Dowla. It is surprising, having such a friend as you, our situation is arrived at that pass, that we should be in distress for dry bread and cloaths. Whereas you have done many generous acts, be pleased to shew us your favour, that by some means we may receive our allowances from the Company's treasury, and not be obliged to depend upon, and solicit, others for it. We hope you will grant us your friendship, and return us a favourable answer through Mr. Cowper.

Translation of a Letter from Mirza Hyder Ally, Merza Ally, and Merza Sefe Ally, to Mr. Cooper. Received 10th March 1783.

We have, through your favour, received Mr. Bristow's answer: it has been thousands of a thousand causes of satisfaction to us. May the everlasting God, in the purity of his glory, preserve health to you, who have shewn us all this favour. Our pens fail in expressing our gratitude. We are now perfectly satisfied, that from your favour we shall receive allowances, month by month. For instance, the Gomasta of Raja Tecket Roy sent us an order on the house of Lalla Buchraje for the sum of two thousand rupees each. We hope you will apply in our names to the Resident, that our pensions may be granted us from the Company's treasury, in the same manner as

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that of our brother Seadut Ally: we alſo repreſent this matter to the Reſident.—Whereas the perſon who brought your letter to us was a Bengally, and ſpies from the preſence watch us; likewiſe, we are under great fear of the Nabob Vizier, and the people in his court, leſt they ſhould be informed of our having any dependance on the Engliſh gentlemen, whereby an injury might be done us; we therefore requeſt, if you have an Hindoſtan Munchy, as undoubtedly will be the caſe, he may be employed in our negociations. Hendoſtannies paſſing will not be regarded, and nobody will be informed thereby. As you have favoured us with your friendſhip, you will ſhew it by not diſcloſing our ſecret until we may have an interview with the Reſident, and oblige us by delivering the incloſed letter to him.

Tranſlation of a Letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 5th Rubby ul Sany 1197, 9th March 1783.

I have received your letter, informing me, that "the "negociation concerning the Treaſurer and Comptroller "prevented the payment of the allowances of the Vizier's brothers, and very little was paid to them; but "they ſhould receive their ſtipends regularly in future: "and that laſt year this matter depended, according to "the Vizier's orders, upon the Molovy, from whom you "would aſcertain the particulars, and repreſent them to "me."—My friend, notwithſtanding a paper containing four articles were delivered to you, I am uninformed if the contents of it have been executed. According to the ſaid paper, it is proper the Vizier's perſonal expences ſhould be diſburſed, agreeable to the Kiſtbundee accompanying this letter. There appears by it a balance due to the Vizier's brothers of eighty-five thouſand rupees, until the end of the month of Maug, and not a hubba has yet been paid to them. You will pleaſe to inform me of the balance of caſh on the day the Treaſurer and Accomptant were appointed, as alſo of the ſubſequent receipts. It is requiſite that there ſhould be iſſued three months pay to the Turkſowârs; and all delays in this buſineſs are improper. I beg you will inform me of the ſums received by Raja Tipper Chund ſince he was put in charge of his office. I wiſhed to have ſpoke to you concerning theſe matters; but your indiſpoſition, at which I feel concern, prevented me. I beg you will let me know the ſtate of your health; and, if ſufficiently recovered, I ſhall be glad to ſee you to-morrow, when I will particularly explain to you certain urgent affairs.

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Kiftbundee of the Nabob's Perfonal Expences.

Departments.	Total Amount.	
Doab - - - -	8,49,773	—
Khord Mohul au Nawab Suja ul Dowla -	1,80,000	—
Khord Mohul au Burhan ul Mulk - -	1,80,000	—
The Vizier's Brothers - -	2,04,000	—
Benny Khanfun, and the Mother of Suffer a Dowla - - -	27,313	—
Shagird Pefha - - - -	4,81,841	8
Tofha Conna Kelauts, and Umber Ally Cawn - - - -	3,00,000	—
Confuma - - -	50,000	—
Buildings - - - -	1,00,000	—
Tope Conna, &c. - - -	1,05,000	—
Gardens - - -	75,000	—
Catching Elephants - - -	50,000	—
Feeding Ditto - - -	35,000	—
Vizier's Privy Purfe, Khord Mahul, &c.	5,62,072	8
	32,00,000	—

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply; dated the 6th Rubby ul Sany, 10th March 1783.

I have received your favour. You fpeak of urgent affairs, and the four feparate articles. I always attend your commands, and I never excufed myfelf from obeying any orders you gave; and now even I am ready. I will execute all matters in the way you may direct. I have been employed in the moft important, as well as the moft trivial, tranfactions between his Highnefs and you. You now fpeak, in general terms, "of the four written articles delivered to me, as if it were unknown to you "whether they were fulfilled or not." What anfwer fhall I give you? I am fubfervient and obedient to you; whatever you direct, that I will do. The Jayidaads, on account of the houfehold, the Vizier's brothers, &c. are in charge of the Aumils: no perfon has kept poffeffion of them. The Aumils will account for what they have paid to the officers of government; and at the prefent time they are enjoined to make their payments in money at the prefence, that in like manner it may be diftributed among the proper people. Twenty-two thoufand rupees have been given to the Vizier's brothers: as the collections are made, more will be paid them. When I wait upon you, I will inform you concerning the balance. Owing to indifpofition I could not attend on you. To-morrow I will

will be with you, and remain there day and night, that I may represent whatever you may at any time require of me, as it is impossible to state every circumstance concerning the current business in a letter. His Highness has ordered three months pay to be issued to the Turksowars.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 20th Rubbee-ul Jany 1197, 24th March 1783.

* I request to be informed of the amount of cash which has been paid to, and expended by, the Treasurer since his appointment. You will oblige me with the accounts.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor-general, dated the 6th June 1783.

I submitted my proceedings, regarding the Vizier's personal expences, to your consideration, in my address of the 4th of March; I have however, to my great mortification, been unable to accomplish the desireable objects thereby proposed. I have repeatedly called upon Hyder Beg Cawn by letter, and verbally, for a statement of the balance of cash paid into the hands of the Treasurer, on the day of his being nominated to the office, and demanded the reason why the plan was not executed. He has constantly evaded giving me any satisfactory answer; and the fact is, that Hyder Beg continues to exercise the functions of Treasurer, Accomptant, and Comptroller of the Vizier's personal expences, in the same extent as formerly; and I am apprised of his determination to contest this point to the last.

I think it my duty to observe, that Hyder Beg Cawn's conduct has in no instance evinced a serious intention of correcting any abuses. He gave me the most solemn assurances, that the plans explained to you, in my address above alluded to, should be strictly executed; that the sums allotted for his Excellency's personal expences should be paid into the treasury, divided into twelve equal parts, and distributed among the different departments of the household monthly; and that the Treasurer, Accomptant, and Comptroller should have actual possession of their

* *To this letter Hyder Beg Cawn promised an answer, on waiting upon Mr. Bristow, but he never gave it.*

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offices: but in none of these particulars has he fulfilled his engagements.

You may be satisfied, Sir, that the power, derived from an entire controul over the Vizier's finances, of distressing, or occasionally with a sparing hand relieving, the necessities of his master, must be a most dangerous weapon in the hands of a designing minister; it is indeed the spring of Hyder Beg Cawn's usurped and hitherto absolute dominion over his Excellency's mind.

The appointment of Raja Tippa Chund to the office of Paymaster to the Vizier's troops, mentioned likewise in my address of the 4th March, has been rendered equally nominal with the foregoing.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable Governor-general and Council, dated 6th June 1783.

Again, Gentlemen, could any entreaties have prevailed on the Minister to co-operate with and assist me, that other important clause of my instructions had long since been complied with, and a plan adopted to regulate and limit in future the Nabob's personal disbursements: but here again the Minister has failed in all his engagements with me. It is, however, pushing his presumption a little too far, when he affirms that, to urge the performance of a condition, expressly recommended and acceded to by the Vizier in the treaty of Chunar, is a direct insult to the person, and an usurpation of the rights, of his sovereign. He indeed well knows the reverse of his proposition is true; but it is not to be imagined that he should patiently abandon the prime instrument of his ascendancy, by which he has hitherto implicitly commanded the words and actions of the Prince his master. It requires no argument to prove, that so long as the disbursements to the Nabob's privy purse shall continue to depend upon the will, and to be furnished at the descretion, of the Minister, the Minister will preserve a power of the most dangerous and ruinous tendency over his Excellency's mind, which it is equally impossible he should escape from or contend with. Hyder Beg had too much sagacity not to be aware that the regulations I proposed would effectually baffle his policy, by making the Vizier perfectly independent of him; and he of course employed all his authority to compel his master into a resistance against the only measure which could rescue him from his present humiliating state of vassalage, and restore him to his dignity. This however, Gentlemen, is a point, as I conceive, never

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never to be yielded, because it is not till after this event that we can hope to see the disorder and profusion, which now pervades and disgraces the Nabob's œconomy, corrected, or expect any wise or salutary administration of his finances.

Extracts of Propositions for the better Settlements of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Affairs.

3d. A Treasurer was appointed for the Vizier's personal expences, and a Paymaster for the army. Provided the revenues had been remitted according to the proposed plan, the sum total of them the Company's assignments excepted) would have been deposited in those Treasuries, and the particulars of the expenditure have been ascertained. Notwithstanding I have called for the account, disbursements, and the balance of cash on the day Tookar Doss was appointed, I have not been able to obtain either: Besides which, the said Takoar Doss, according to the plan, ought to have been Comptroller (Moctar Mashraff); he has never been put in charge, and the trust and confidence which were before placed in him under his Excellency's Administration, he has entirely lost.

In consequence of the Treasury's not being properly managed, large sums are embezzled, the necessary establishments are not provided for, whilst lacks are squandered in useless expences. It is necessary a General Treasurer should be appointed, to whom all receipts of revenue should be first paid, and afterwards distributed to the subordinate Treasuries.

4th. Funds for the necessary payment of the Vizier's personal expences are the first consideration. It is necessary to do away the disgrace suffered from the distress of the Vizier's household, and irregular payment of the servants' wages; and for this purpose, the sums allowed for the support of his household and servants should be paid into the hands of a separate Treasurer; the whole sum shall be divided into twelve equal installments, paid monthly by the said Treasurer. No payment to be made except by the Vizier's orders, attested by the Acting Minister; and that no person holding offices in the Vizier's household shall be a Farmer of Revenue.

5th. Large sums would be required to satisfy the list of Jagheerdars and Tuncawdars; owing to his Excellency's want of money, few are paid. The distress has been so great, that the Nabob's brothers, the women belonging to the Zenanahs of the late Vizier, and the Nabob Buchaun ul Mulk, have been in want even of the necessaries of life. Some of his Excellency's brothers have sought a subsistence

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with other Chiefs; it is therefore necessary a separate Treasurer should be appointed for the Jagheerdars and Tuncawdars, and their pensions to be paid monthly, according to the months of the Fussullee year.

Copy of Letter from Captain Jaques to Mr. Richard Johnson, dated Fyzabad, the 6th March, 1782.

The women belonging to the Khord Mehul, complain of their being in want of every necessary of life; and are at last drove to desperation, that they at night get on the top of the Zenanah, make a great disturbance; and last night not only abused the centinels posted in the garden, but threw dirt at them. They threaten to throw themselves from the walls of the Zenanah, and also to break out of it.

Humanity obliges me to acquaint you with this matter, and to request to know if you have any directions to give me concerning it.

I also beg leave to acquaint you, I sent for Letaffit Ally Cawn, the Cojah who has the charge of them, who informs me that their complaint is well grounded; that they have sold every thing they had, even to the cloaths from their backs, and now have no means of existing. Inclosed I transmit you a letter from Mandall on the subject.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Jaques to Mr. Richard Johnson, dated Fyzabad, 7th March, 1782.

I beg leave to address you again concerning the women in the Khord Mehall. Their behaviour last night was so furious, that there seemed the greatest probability of their proceeding to the utmost extremities, and that they would either throw themselves from the walls, or force the doors of the Zenanah. I have made every enquiry concerning the cause of their complaints, and find, from Letaffit Ally Cawn, that they are all in a starving condition, having sold all their cloaths and necessaries, and now have not wherewithal to support nature; and, as my instructions are quite silent on this head, should be glad to know how to proceed, in case they were to force the doors of the Zenanah, as I suspect it will happen, should no subsistence be very quickly sent to them.

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Copy of a Letter from Major Gilpin to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, dated Fyzabad, 30th October, 1782.

Laſt night, about eight o'clock, the women in the Khord Mehull Zenanah, under the charge of Letaffit Ally Cawn, aſſembled on the tops of the buildings, crying in a moſt lamentable manner for food; that for the laſt four days they had got but a very ſcanty allowance, and that yeſterday they got none.

The melancholy cries of famine are more eaſily imagined than deſcribed; and, from their repreſentation, I fear the Nabob's agents for that buſineſs are very inattentive. I therefore think it requiſite to make you acquainted with the circumſtance, that his Excellency the Nabob may cauſe his agents to be more circumſpect in their conduct towards thoſe poor unhappy women.

Copy of a Letter from Major Gilpin to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, dated Fyzabad, 15th November, 1782.

The repeated cries of the women of the Khord Mehul Zenanah for ſubſiſtence has been truly melancholy.

They beg moſt piteouſly for liberty, that they may earn their daily bread by laborious ſervitude, or be relieved from their miſery by immediate death.

In conſequence of their unhappy ſituation, I have this day taken the liberty to draw on you in favour of Ramnarain (at ten days ſight) for twenty-five Korah rupees, ten thouſand, which I have paid to Cojah Letaffit Ally Cawn, under whoſe care that Zenanah is.*

Tranſlation of a Letter from Letaffit Ally Cawn to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.—Received the 5th July, 1783.

All the ſons and daughters, and the ladies of the Zenanah, of the late Vizier, are offering up daily prayers, and counting their beads in the ſincerity of their hearts, for your long life, proſperity, and greatneſs, as their exiſtence depends upon the permanence of your power. May the Almighty God long preſerve and cheriſh ſuch goodneſs. †

* *The Reſident applied to the Miniſter, to furniſh the Khord Mechull with the amount of the allowances granted for its ſupport; aad ſome part was accordingly paid.*—† *Other letters of thanks to the ſame purport, from the ladies of the Zenanah, were received by the Reſident.*

Extracts

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Extracts from the Honourable the Governor General's Instructions to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated October 23d, 1782.

Immediately on your arrival sound the disposition of Hyder Beg Cawn: His conduct has for some time past been highly reproachable; till within these three months, when Mr. Johnson assumed a large portion of his authority, he possessed, without controul, both the unparticipated and entire administration, with all the powers annexed to that Government; the Nabob himself being, as he ever must be in the hands of some person, a mere cypher in his, and the sanction by which he exercised his authority; yet he has dared both to use the Nabob's name, and even his seal, affixed to letters either dictated to the Nabob, or written from him without his knowledge, containing very improper demands on our Government, and such as evidently tended to promote Hyder Beg's influence and interest, and even to make him assume a very unbecoming tone of reproach, and resentment, in opposition to measures recommended by me; and even to acts done by my authority, in literal conformity to the Nabob's own and earnest solicitation; such as the resumption of the Jagheers, and the seizure of his father's treasures, which had been so long suffered to remain in the hands of the Begum his mother, and the other conditions of the engagement exacted from me at Chunar. On every occasion of this kind, the late Resident has been the faithful echo and support of the Minister's pretensions. I must, therefore, have recourse to you for the introduction of a new system in that Government; nor can I omit, while I express my reliance upon you for this purpose, to repeat the sentiments which I expressed in the verbal instructions which I gave you at your departure, "that there can be no medium in the relation between the Resident and the Minister; but either the Resident must be the slave and vassal of the Minister, or the Minister at the absolute devotion of the Resident." Much as I am displeased at the conduct of the Minister, I impute it more to the sufferance of Mr. Middleton, than to himself; and if he will submit to hold his office on such conditions as I require, I would certainly prefer him to any other man who could be nominated to his office; because he possesses abilities, and a knowledge of business; he exists by his dependance on the influence of our Government; and, above all, because a change of Administration in a Government so loose as that of Oude, where all the parts of it are held together by the exertion of actual power, and not by the springs of an established constitution, would be unavoidably productive of confusion and loss of revenue. Therefore it may be adviseable to try

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him by the mode of conciliation in your first conversation with him; at the same time that it will be necessary to declare to him, in the plainest terms, the footing and conditions on which he shall be permitted to retain his place; with the alternative of dismission, and a scrutiny into his past conduct, if he refuses it. In the first place, I will not receive from the Nabob, as his, letters dictated by the spirit of opposition; but shall consider every such attempt as the Minister's, and as an insult on our Government. In the second place, I shall expect that nothing is done in his official character, but with your knowledge and participation; at the same time, the first share of the responsibility will rest with you. The other conditions will follow distinctly in their places, because I consider you as responsible for them.

Study on every occasion to conciliate the good will of the Nabob, and shew him every ostensible and external mark of respect. I should hope that, with due attention, you would not find it difficult to make him himself the mover of every act necessary, whether for the advancement of his own interest, or the discharge of his debts to the Company. But this can never be effected while the Minister maintains that ascendant over him, which he at present holds by the means of a nearer and more private intercourse, and by affecting to be the vindicator of his right against the claims of our Government. In my late engagement with the Nabob, it was stipulated, that a certain sum should be set apart monthly for his private expences; and this made a part of my private instructions to Mr. Middleton. The sum was afterwards fixed, as I recollect, at thirty lacks. It was my intention and direction, that this appropriation should be made before any other, and this I make my present injunctions to you; requiring also that you do make it a point of immediate and strict enquiry, whether the Nabob has hitherto received the whole and punctual payment of the sum assigned to this account, or any part of it has been withheld from him, whether with or without his concurrence. I mention this, because, from some private informations which I have lately received, I have reason to suspect that this is actually the case. Whatever foundation there may be for this report, let justice be done to the Nabob; and, if he has been deceived, undeceive him.

True copies and translations.

JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

True copies of inclosures in Mr. Bristow's letter.

E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Consn.

Consn. 4th Sept.

August 24th, 1783.

Mr. Wheler.

The opinions which it has been necessary for me to give, at various times, on the subject of the complaints made against Mr. Bristow by the Nabob Vizier and his Minister, and on the motions and propositions of the Governor General grounded on them, have relieved me from the necessity of going through every stage of the business at this time; I shall therefore confine my attention solely to this consideration, Whether the charges, as they are drawn up against Mr. Bristow, and answered by him, are fully proved and established? and briefly state my sentiments of his public conduct, as they arise from the materials before me.

I must first premise, that the charges are of such a nature as to render it almost impossible for the Resident to disprove them by any certain and positive evidence, because they chiefly consist of deductions from asserted facts, which do not appear, in some instances, correctly stated. Besides, I conceive it as necessary and just that the affirmative of Mr. Bristow's criminality should be proved by the person who imputes it to him, as it would be cruel and unjust to admit of his having cleared himself from them, only in the event of his proving a negative to all the bold assertions of the Nabob's Minister.—For what man, employed in public business, could ever transact it with credit to himself, or advantage to his employers—or who would attempt it—if charges and accusations, unsupported by evidence, and dictated by parties interested in his removal from his station, should be allowed to have weight with those who are the judges of his conduct, and by whose judgment he must be supported or fall?

From the general character of Hyder Beg Khan, and the known influence he has long possessed over the Nabob's mind, which has led to an uncontrouled sway over all his dominions, I am inclined to believe that the letters from the Vizier to the Governor General were principally dictated by his Minister; and this circumstance must induce those who view it in the same light, to give less weight and consequence to the representations, than they would deserve if they sprung from a real sense of injuries received from Mr. Bristow, as deeply impressed in his Excellency's mind as they are inculcated in his letters.

It may be difficult for men, who feel themselves injured by the misrepresentations of others, to confine themselves solely to their own vindication; they are naturally prone to recriminate on their accusers. Mr. Bristow has not been able to refrain from this error, in his defence; but I neither approve of it, nor of the angry manner in which he speaks

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to the Board of a perſon, through the medium of whoſe influence the Company's affairs have been ſo long conducted at the Nabob's Court, and who is entitled to reſpect as long as he is deemed worthy of acting in that elevated ſtation.

With reſpect to the queſtion before us, I am firmly of opinion, that the charges againſt Mr. Briſtow are neither proved or eſtabliſhed, and that his conduct ought not to ſubject him to the cenſure of the Board. Indeed the principal accuſations againſt him are founded only on his attempts to introduce ſundry reforms, which have not ſucceeded; attempts which do not appear to ſtand in contradiction to the ſpirit, or even letter, of his inſtructions.—He has been thwarted and oppoſed in all by the Miniſter; and, as far as I can collect from the charges themſelves, and Mr. Briſtow's reply, the appointments, which are held up as encroachments upon the Nabob's dignity and rights of Government, are not now exiſting. It would therefore be highly unjuſt to condemn, and much more ſo to remove, the Reſident, for endeavouring to carry into effect the plan and meaſures which he was inſtructed to adopt. He would find great difficulty in anſwering the charge, if it was inverted, and he ſtood accuſed by this Government in not having perſevered with greater firmneſs in the execution of his truſt: And, if Mr. Briſtow is ſtill to be guided by the inſtructions he received on his appointment, the united weight of the influence of this Government ſhould be exerted to the accompliſhment of the plans therein recommended; or his inſtructions ſhould be ſo altered and modified as to make them more palatable to the Nabob and his Miniſter, yet ſuch as would effectually ſecure to the Company its preſent and future claims on the Vizier's Government. If the latter ſhould meet the concurrence of the Board, I could wiſh that another ſet of inſtructions were immediately prepared, more conformable to thoſe which have generally been given to Reſidents upon former occaſions.

30th Auguſt, 1785.

Mr. Stables,

I have read with attention the papers referred to me in my anſwer to the charges brought againſt the Reſident at Oude by the Nabob Vizier, and his Miniſter Hyder Beg Khân: The charges are not proved to my conviction in any ſingle inſtance. It appears to me that Mr. Briſtow has adhered to the ſpirit of his inſtructions, which fully authorized him to carry certain regulations into execution for the benefit of the Vizier and the Company; in attempting which, he has been invariably counteracted by Hyder Beg Cawn, whoſe power and influence were affected by the plans propoſed.

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The Resident has constantly informed the Board of all his transactions and intentions, and stated the difficulties which he had to contend against; he has done so particularly in his letter of the 21st of January last, which, by some mistake, was not laid before the Board until three months after the receipt of it by the Secretary, and in his letters of the 13th May and 6th of June, all which are yet unanswered. From the Board's silence to the Resident, after the constant information which they had from him, he must have conceived that he was warranted in following his instructions, and using his endeavours to carry them into complete effect.

After a full review of this business, and having taken all the papers into consideration, I am of opinion that the conduct of the Resident at Lucknow deserves the approbation of the Board; and that he ought to be assisted by the entire weight and influence of this Government, to be enabled to execute what is prescribed in his instructions; on a strict adherence to which the peace and safety of the Vizier's country, and the payment of the Company's heavy balances, so much depend.

The Nawaub is, in my opinion, so much in the hands of his Minister Hyder Beg Khan, who has the entire controul of his country, that I consider his Excellency's letters as in fact the letters of Hyder Beg. I consider Hyder Beg as a dangerous man to this Government; and the comparative statement of the revenues of the Vizier's country, between the Fussulee years 1183, and 1190, transmitted to to us by the Resident, gives me the worst opinion of his management and conduct, and affords me but a melancholy prospect with respect to the early payment of the Vizier's present debt, and our current claims on him, which must continue while our troops are employed in the defence of his country. To recall the Resident, or to abolish his office, would be in effect removing every check or restraint on the views and conduct of the Minister. While we are obliged, and as I think unfortunately, to have a large army in the Vizier's dominions for their defence and protection, and while the internal peace and security of his country is so much connected as it is with those of our own, we surely have a right to interfere, for the purpose of correcting the gross abuses and mismanagement of his government.

Minute from Mr. Macpherson.

On the subject of Mr. Bristow's answer to the complaints of the Vizier, and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn, I shall give my opinion in a few words, as it is probable the affairs of

of Oude will now become matter of full discussion at the Board.

1st. The complaints against Mr. Bristow appear to me to be, in a great measure, invalidated by their real object, which is not the removal of Mr. Bristow alone, but that of his nominated successor Mr. Cooper, and, in a word, the removal of the Company's Residency entirely from the Court of the Vizier. Hyder Beg Cawn's consequent request (letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to the Governor General) to this Government, places his views and ambition in a light not to be mistaken.

2. It is my opinion, that Mr. Bristow has fully refuted the accusations advanced against him; and if they had, in some degree, been established, they should lie more against the Board than against Mr. Bristow, who continually advised them of his endeavours to carry his instructions into effect.

3. I think the opposition which Hyder Beg Cawn has (amongst his professions of obedience) made to every effort of the Resident, to carry through the instructions of this Government, renders him highly responsible for the consequences, whatever they have been or may be in future.

4. The late dispatches of the Court of Directors, on the subject of the Chunar treaty, and the resumed jagheers, prove clearly, that the Company are determined to keep a Resident at the Vizier's Court, and to confirm his charge of acts of internal management in that Government.

True copies.

E. HAY,

Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Consn. 29th Septr.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Khaja Ain ul Dine, having a few days since been dismissed from the Government of Rohilcund, and Raja Surat Sing having been deputed by the Nabob Vizier, with a commission to regulate that province, the Rajah has accordingly left Lucknow, and will, I hope, by this time be arrived at his station. Khaja Ain ul Dine's conduct, upon his dismission, appeared so extremely suspicious, as to determine Major Cook on securing his person.—I have the pleasure to inform you, that last night I received a letter from the Major acquainting me of his having done it without tumult. This morning I referred the matter to the Minister's consideration; and he resolved, the Nabob Vizier

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zier being abſent on a viſit to the Begum at Fyzabad, that Khaja Ain ul Dine ſhould remain in confinement. I ſhall trouble you with the particulars as ſoon as the correſpondence can be copied.

I am, with the higheſt reſpect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Lucknow, Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
13th Auguſt, 1783. JOHN BRISTOW,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Incloſed I have the honour to tranſmit you a copy of my correſpondence with Major Browne, and hope the anſwer I returned, at the requiſition of the Miniſter, in his Highneſs's behalf, will meet with your approbation.

His Highneſs, previous to his departure for Fyzabad, having told me that his journey had no other object than merely a viſit of ceremony, upon receiving Major Browne's letter, I applied to the acting Miniſter to furniſh me with copies of his correſpondence, and ſuch information of his Highneſs's tranſactions as had come to his knowledge.—He aſſured me, that the reports of his Highneſs's having the leaſt idea of ill treating the Begums, were falſe and ſcandalous, and that the moſt perfect reconciliation had taken place between them.

The Miniſter has informed me, that the Vizier was importuned to reſtore their jaggyres, but that he has no intention of complying with ſuch ſolicitations, propoſing to grant them ſuch allowances in money as the ſtate of his finances may admit of.

I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Lucknow, Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
Auguſt 23d, 1783. JOHN BRISTOW,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

To

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To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 5th instant, with its inclosures.

The evening of the 7th, at a conference which I had with Mirza Shuffee Cawn, he introduced a subject respecting the Nawaub Vizier, which, however disagreeable it may be to you to know, and consequently to me to communicate, I am under the necessity of laying before you.

He told me that he had received information from Lucknow, that by the advice ot Hyder Beg Cawn, the Vizier had determined to bring his grandmother, the Widow of Sufdar Jung, from Fyzabad to Lucknow, with a view of getting a further sum of money from her, by seizing on her Eunuchs, digging up the apartments of her house at Fyzabad, and putting her own person under restraint. This, he said, he knew was not an act of our Government, but the mere advice of Hyder Beg Cawn, to which the Vizier has been induced to attend. He added, that the old Begum had resoved rather to put herself to death, than submit to the disgrace intended to be inflicted on her; that if such a circumstance should happen, there is not a man in Hindostan who will attribute the act to the Vizier, but every one will fix the odium on the English; who might easily, by the influence they so largely exercise in their own concerns there, have prevented such unnatural conduct in the Vizier: He therefore called on me, as the English representative in this quarter, to inform you of this, that you may prevent a step which will destroy all confidence in the English nation throughout Hindostan, and excite the bitterest resentment in all those who by blood are connected with the house of Sufdar Jung. He concluded by saying, that, "if the Vizier so little regarded his family "and personal honour, or his natural duty, as to wish to "disgrace his father's mother, for a sum of money, let "him plunder her of all she has; but let him send her safe "up to Delhy or Agra, and, poor as I am, I will furnish "a subsistence for her, which she shall possess with safety "and honour, though it cannot be adequate to her "rank."

This, Sir, is a most exact detail of the conversation, as far as related to that affair, on the part of Mirza Shuffee Cawn. On my part, I could only say, that I imagined the affair was misrepresented, and that I should write as he requested. Let me request, therefore, that you will enable me to answer in a more effectual manner any further questons on this subject.

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As Mirza Shuffee's grandfather was brother to Juffdar Jung, there can be no doubt of what his declaration means, and if the meafure of diftreffing the old Begum fhould be perfifted in, I fhould not, from the ftate of affairs, and the character of the Ameer ul Omrah, be fupprifed at fome immediate and violent refolution being adopted by him.

Deig, I am, &c.
the 9th Auguft, 1783. (Signed) JAMES BROWNE.

A true copy.
(Signed) T. Hill,
Affift. to the Refident.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

To Major James Brown.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 9th inftant; and, in the abfence of the Vizier, am requefted by his Highnefs's Minifter, Hyder Beg Cawn, who is invefted with full power to act in his behalf, to inform you, that the report concerning the objects of the Nabob's vifit to the Begum's, is entirely void of foundation. The Minifter likewife defired I would communicate his mafter's fentiments to you: —"That he confiders the Ameer ul Omrah's declarations "as an infult; that his interference in his Highnefs's internal government is inadmiffible; and that he has been "highly wanting in the refpect due to the dignity of the "Nawaub Vizier, in the firft place, in fuppofing him capable "of ill-treating the Begums; and, in the next, admitting "the fact as ftated by Mirza Shuffee, his threats were un-"becoming, and would in all fituations be difregarded."

If Mirza Shuffee fhould repeat his applications to you, I muft requeft you will give this anfwer, either verbally or in writing, as expreffive of his Highnefs's fentiments; which now becomes the more neceffary, in confequence of the threatening language held by the Amyre ul Omrah in public, and which has been reported both in the Vizier's and Englifh News-papers, as you will fee by the inclofed extract.

Lucknow, I am, &c.
the 21ft Auguft, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Refident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy.
T. Hill,
Affift. to the Refident.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Extract

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Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 29th September 1783.

Read the following Letters from Col. James Morgan:

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter I have received from the Resident at the Vizier's Court, with a statement of Almass's forces, &c; and as the case appears to be an extraordinary one, I beg leave to request that you will honour me with your instructions how to act upon the occasion. In the mean time, I have informed Mr. Bristow, that I can furnish two regiments out of the force with me (though one of the four is broken, two companies of it being with Mr. D. Anderson) but that I must have your instructions for putting the brigade in motion; and without them I could not put the Company to the extraordinary expence attending such a measure, unless upon an emergency against a foreign enemy. However, in my opinion, the service against Almass Ally Khan can be effected fully as well by strong detachments from Colonel Sir John Cumming's force, assisted with two or three regiments from this station, as it can be was the brigade to march; especially as Almass's troops are so separated and divided, according to Mr. Bristow's statement.

But all this is upon a supposition that he will occasion disturbances, which I don't think probable, in the present situation of our affairs here.

If two regiments are furnished for that service from this station, there will not be left a very respectable force at it; which I am directed by your former instructions to keep collected here.

I have the honour, &c.
JAMES MORGAN,
Col. commanding 2d brigade.

Cawnpore,
29th Aug. 1783.

To Colonel James Morgan, Commanding in the Field.

Sir,

The period approaching when I expect Almass Ally Cawn's dismission from the districts under his authority will take place, I transmit you a statement of the troops under his command, and their stations, as nearly as I have been able to ascertain them.

 I hope

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I hope this event will be unattended with tumult; but I furnish you with the information, that every necessary precaution may be taken.

Lucknow, I have the honour, &c.
27th Aug. 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy.
H. Lloyd, Secretary.

Statement of Almass Ally Cawn's Troops.

With whom.	Horse.	Foot.	Artil.
Sobah Ram and Sewaran, Fouzdars of Ellawa, &c. -	800	1,600	5
Shatik Azemuldeen, Pouzdars of Ackberabad and Secundera -	200	400	
Takoor Doss, Fonedar of Sharah	500	1,000	4
Sutul Persand, Fouzdar of Corah	500	1,000	5
Jessing Roy, Aumil of Pehphona	200	1,000	2
Hussein Cawn, Jugdeespoore Anowne, &c. - -	200	1,000	4
Hussein Bengsh Chelah, Fouzdar of Futtypore - -	400	1,000	2
At Meah Gunge -	650		
At Tolgony - -	1,400	1,700	18 4 lar.
	4,850	8,700	40
With Almass, at Lucknow -	150	300	
	5,000	9,000	40

20 Pieces of Artillery of the above belonging to the Nabob.
20 Ditto - - - - to Almass.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Lucknow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.
27th Aug. 1783.

A true Copy.
(Signed) D. Marshall,
Aid de Camp.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

The persevering industry with which Hyder Beg Cawn hath hitherto laboured to misrepresent my intentions and proceedings, necessarily and frequently compels me into details that under any other circumstances might be spared, and

and which I can no otherwise excuse to the Honourable Board, than as they are become absolutely requisite to my security against the danger and mischief of his scandals. It is this plea, Gentlemen, I must now avail myself of, to apologize for the length of the accompanying inclosures, comprizing such part of my correspondence with the Minister, as in any shape relates to the confinement of Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen by Major Cooke, a circumstance I had the honour to notify to you in my address of the 13th instant. They will also explain to you how much in vain I have solicited Hyder Beg Cawn on the subject of some salutary arrangement for Rohilcund. This province, rich, flourishing, and happy, till it had the misfortune of being delivered over by the Minister to the merciless rapacity of the above Aumil, is now, I must repeat, Gentlemen, in a condition, from which to retrieve it, will require at once all the wisdom and all the vigour of government. It would seem (the remark arising naturally from my correspondence with Hyder Beg Cawn) that so much time is employed by him in professions of zeal and obedience, as to leave no leisure whatever for the exercise of those virtues. The new settlement has now been the sole question between us during three months, and yet to this hour (save in the single instance quoted by himself of Mirza Shuffee Cawn) he has neither reported the accounts of any one Aumil, as finally adjusted, nor has he settled any one agreement relative to the revenue of the ensuing year. Long practised in business, and deeply versed, as he boasts himself, in the usage of the Vizier's government, he informs me, with an air of triumph, that my proposal to conclude the settlement early, is repugnant both to the one and the other; and upon this ground alone (as if it were possible to sanctify folly by prescription) he stands forth the advocate of a system, which all experience must have convinced him is attended (from the want of legal magistrates during the first harvest of the year) with every pernicious consequence to the peace and cultivation of the country. I much doubt if the boasted system, described by the Minister, is that under which the dominions of Aussoph ul Doula flourished in the time of his predecessors. Such, however, says Hyder Beg Cawn, has been the policy of sixty-five years; he omits at the same time to observe, how far that very policy, in conjunction with more recent evils, has contributed to bring these provinces into the situation of disorder and distress at which they are now arrived. It is by a mode of reasoning altogether similar that he attempts to defend the character and conduct of Khaugah-Ain-Ul-Deen; dwelling

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ling much upon the punctuality of that Aumil's payments. He passes over in silence the annihilation of a third part of the annual revenue, and the utter ruin of the province, which have been the consequence of his extortion and mismanagement; and indeed it is wisdom in the Minister so to do. Having himself exercised for years an uncontrouled dominion over these extensive countries, it is only by burying in oblivion all memory of past transactions, that he can hope to escape the responsibility and punishment of a multitude of oppressions, which he has either encouraged by his example, or invited by his sufferance, in the course of his ruinous administration. In appointing Rajah Soorat Sing to the general superintendance of Rohilcund, it is self-evidently the Minister's intention to invest him with an authority as unbounded as that lately exercised by Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen, and which has terminated so fatally. If I may form any conclusion from his conduct, it is not less his desire to confirm the dangerous power of Almass Allee Cawn, by leaving him also in possession of all his countries. These are points, Gentlemen, of such immediate importance to the welfare and existence of his Highness the Vizier's government, that, agreeably to my instructions, nothing on my part has been omitted, in the way of remonstrance and protest, to deter the Minister from the prosecution of them. So entirely, however, has Hyder Beg Cawn thrown off all respect and consideration for your representative, that I must confess I have no longer any expectation of good from this mode of interference; at the same time I am at a loss, Gentlemen, how otherwise to act. Having already seen my endeavours to execute treaties interpreted into a design to infringe and usurp the sovereign rights of the Nabob, I cannot flatter myself that an attempt to secure his dominions against the horrors of future rebellion would, from his Minister, meet a more favourable construction. In this dilemma I beg leave to request your explicit directions for my guidance, upon a supposition that the Minister, undeterred by my remonstrances, should at last determine to continue a system, which, by a most impolitic division of his Highness's treasure and forces, leaves no security to government for the payment of the revenues, and the peace of the country, except what may be derived from the uncertain forbearance and moderation of a few powerful and haughty individuals. Of the fallibility of this dependance, indeed, if it were necessary to search for examples in proof of a self-evident proposition, the instance of Almass Allee Cawn's revolt last year would, I apprehend, be decisive.

The

The other subject, upon which I flatter myself I shall be honoured with your speedy decision, relates to Khaujah-Ain-ul-Deen. It is true, through the vigilance and activity of Major Cook, that his person is secure; but I am well aware, that, in my endeavours to recover the very heavy balance of thirteen lacks still due from him to the Company, upon an assignment of only twenty-seven, I must not look for any assistance from the Minister. In such a case he is indeed too prudent openly to avow himself the advocate of Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen; but the readiness and complacency with which he has hitherto admitted the pleas, however frivolous, urged by that Aumil in excuse for his failure, and the reluctance he has always shewn to adopt any measure which might compel him to the discharge of his debt, are circumstances which unite to persuade me, no encouragement will be wanting to Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen that the Minister can secretly and safely afford him; whilst, on the other hand, he will seek, as usual, to amuse me, and disguise his practice, by an eternal repetition of hollow and insidious professions.

Before I conclude, Gentlemen, permit me to give one instance of the fallacy of the arguments pleaded by Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen, in defence of his present balance. By his mismanagement and oppression, the revenues of Rohilcund are reduced one third in their annual value. After three years of the most horrible oppressions, he finds it is utterly impossible that Rohilcund should longer afford any revenue at all; therefore, says he, if, instead of *farming* the province, as I did last year, at a fixed jumma of fifteen lacks, you will give it me in *Amâny* at thirty-eight lacks, I will try whether I cannot collect that sum; and to this most extraordinary proposition the Minister agrees. At the expiration, however, of the term, the Aumil being in balance thirteen lacks (of the Company's assignment alone, which was originally no more than twenty-seven) he fairly tells me that he has paid all the country will yield; and, having held it in Amauny, he is accountable for no more. Before this doctrine be admitted, I would ask him one question: If those districts, which last year paid fifty lacks, can only pay twenty-five lacks this year (which is the fact, at least if he is to be believed, and supposing the Company's balance to be the only balance) have not you had the management of them during the whole time? and do you attempt to justify your present failure by urging the impoverished state of the country, of which you, and you alone, have been the cause by your rapacity?——Yet this, Gentlemen, is the reasoning which the Minister not only listens

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listens to from Khaugah-Ain-ul-Deen, but repeats after him to me, as an excuse for his enormous balance.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,
JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
30th Aug. 1783.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Actg. Sec. to the Secret Department.

Translation of a Letter from Mahomed Cawzem Cawn; dated 26th of Shawbaun 1197, Hig. or the 27th July 1783, to Mr. Bristow.

I beg leave to inform you, that the day on which Major Cook and arrived at Barelly, Khauge Ein ul Deen's fears operating upon him, he deposited secretly with three several bankers six lacks of rupees, in order to its being remitted to Pannipat, his native place. As soon as I was informed of this transaction, I made particular enquiry; and finding it had been truly represented, I now acquaint you with it, as a matter of the first importance. You will be so obliging as to peruse this letter yourself, that no person may come to a knowledge of its contents. The names of the bankers above-mentioned are as follows: viz.

Bukshy Ram and Co.
Husbunslaul and Co.
Keysoozawy and Co.

Upon the cover of the above letter was the following:

It is necessary you should open this address and peruse it yourself, to prevent its contents transpiring.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 29th Shaubaun 1197, Hig. or 30th July 1783.

I have just received authentic intelligence, that Khauje Ein-ud-Dein has bad intentions: I before intimated my suspicions to you on this head. It is necessary that whatever is to be done with respect to Rohilcund, should be done quickly, and without further delay. In case his Excellency purposes to set off to-morrow, it will be proper to request he will defer his departure till the day after. Be so

so obliging as to let me see you either to-night or to-morrow, that we may in concert determine upon the measures to be adopted on this occasion. As the contents of this letter are of an important and secret nature, I have for more security sent it by my own Munshy Mahomed Zanker.

Mr. Bristow's Munshy returned with a verbal answer, That the Minister would wait upon him the next morning. They had an interview accordingly, on the 31st of July 1783.—Mr. Bristow called upon Hyder Beg Cawn to furnish him with his sentiments in writing, respecting Khauje Ein-ud-Dien, agreeable to which Mr. Bristow would forward instructions to Major Cook. The Minister, on his return home, sent him the followinu letter:

Translation of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, dated the 1st of Rumzaun 1197, or the 31st July 1783.

However human nature shall have been put to the test, yet, when doubts again arise, without trial there can be no confidence. If you please, I will direct Khauje-Ein-ud-Dien's agent to inform his master, that the season of the collections being at an end, and his Naibs at the different stations, he should leave his son at Barelly, and come himself, by Dawk, to Lucknow. I mentioned this in the conjectural, though predominating hope, that he will come, and so all suspicions may cease; and not from any intention to countenance him, as I am ready to conform to your orders implicitly: If he does not come, then there will be good cause for suspicion, and then we should be particularly watchful of him. If you should approve of his leaving his son, and repairing alone to Lucknow, you will be so obliging as to apprize the Major not to oppose his coming; and, at the same time, secretly to guard his son, until the arrival of Khauje-Ein-ud-Dien at Lucknow. These, Sir, are my sentiments; if they correspond with yours, I beg you will let me know, that I may direct his agent accordingly. In the mean time, the departure of Juggernaut and Maha Raja Surut Sing need not to be delayed—Let these Gentlemen go—It is not necessary that they should be stopped till the answer of Khauje Ein ud Dien arrive. These Gentlemen will go according to your directions. If Khauje Ein ud Dien means fair, he will also come—At all events, the letter you will write to the Major, to be upon his guard, will in either case be effectual.

Mr

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply; dated the 2d Rumzaun, or 1st August 1783.

I have been favoured with your letter relative to the call of Khauje Ein ud Dien to Lucknow; and I have written to Major Cook, not to oppose the Khauja's coming to the presence, and to keep a secret watch over him. Sir, what intelligence I receive, I immediately communicate it to you; and I now send you a copy of Mahomed Cawzim Cawn's letter, which I shewed you yesterday. It appears from that letter, that Khauje Ein ud Dien is remitting a very large sum out of the Vizier's dominions, though he is, at this very time, in balance to the Company to the amount of sixteen lacks of rupees; add to this, the arbitrary fines which, in conjunction with Chyne Sake, he imposed upon the merchants and traders, and the oppressions which he committed on the inhabitants, insomuch that the annual Jumma of Rohilcund is diminished one half. Having received previous advice of the conduct and practices of Khauje Ein ud Dien, I give you notice, that, having immediately represented to his Highness what was proper to be done, you might execute it without delay. I cannot here, Sir, help testifying my surprize at an expression which still recurs in all your letters, viz. "That "whatever are my *orders*, you will perform them."—The truth, Sir, is this; that, whether in respect of the choice of Aumils, in making the present year's settlement, or in any other measures whatever, I neither have, nor will I, give any *orders*. On the other hand, where the welfare of his Highness the Nabob's affairs, and the Company's, are concerned, I have still tendered my opinion and advice, pointing out the propriety or impropriety. You, Sir, have made such arrangements, that the responsibility of no one measure rests upon me. With respect to the summoning Khaje Ein ud Dein, and the departure of Raja Surut Sing and Raja Jaggernaut, it rests, Sir, entirely with you. Be so obliging, when you have consulted his Highness's pleasure, to inform me of it. - I beg to make one observation, and it is this; that whatever you determine, should be carried into execution without delay; the necessity of the case, I think, requires this: Every assistance that depends upon me I am ready to afford you. If you should not approve the orders that have been sent to Major Cook, I will send such others as you may be pleased to require.—You are pleased to say, that the season of the collections is past, —True, Sir; but, from the delay which has attended the making of the settlement, the time of cultivation, as far as respects the Kurreiff harvest, is already past, and that of the Rubby is elapsing. No one district has yet been arranged;

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arranged; and many of the Aumils, which with my privity you have made choice of, are ſtill waſting their time idly at Lucknow. It is my opinion, the ſooner both the new and old Aumils are diſmiſſed to the care and charge of their reſpective diſtricts, the more advantageous it will be to the Sircar. I have the pleaſure to incloſe you a draft of a letter which I have prepared in anſwer to thoſe received from Khauje Ein ud Dien; and I am to beg you will inform me whether it meets your approbation, as in that event I mean to diſpatch it to-night.

Draft of a Letter from Mr. Briſtow to Khauge Ein ud Dien.

I have lately received ſeveral of your letters, which I have not, from multiplicity of buſineſs, yet anſwered. A reply to one of them, in particular, in which you enquire concerning your diſmiſſion or confirmation in office, was neceſſary. The caſe is this, that there is no remedy for the calamities of the Heavens; and no one can compel you to anſwer for the balance of revenue due from you, except after examination into it. Whatever is juſt will be done. It is requiſite that you communicate the circumſtances to me in the moſt particular manner; and you will at this time make me conſiderable remittances, by which you will render a ſervice to yourſelf, and afford me ſatisfaction.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply; dated 2d Rumzaun, or 1ſt Auguſt, 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter. I am obedient to your commands reſpecting the Aumils. I have hitherto conducted myſelf in conformity to your directions, and ſhall continue ſo to do. I make no evaſions. Whenever you have ſpoken to me about Khauje Ein ud Dien, I have always repreſented to you, that, during three years he has been in employment, he has always paid to the laſt farthing; that this year the country is in amany. Khauje Ein ud Dien complains of drought; and he has ſeveral times made it his requeſt to you, to take his accounts, ſhewing the actual collections. You, Sir, are the maſter, and will do juſtice according to your pleaſure. Khauje Ein ud Dien claims deductions on account of the want of rain. Mahomed Khanzem Cawn has done the ſame on account of his diſtrict. The latter, upon a condition that the periodical rains do not fail, has offered an increaſe upon his laſt year's Jumma. Khauje Ein ud Dien upon the ſame terms propoſes to enter into engagements for the next four years. Euery man makes ſuch propoſals as he

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he thinks fit. To reject or approve them, is the province of the superior. I have never yet, nor will I recommend Khauje Ein ud Dien; because in money matters I shew no favour to any person. The same claims of deductions, and fresh offers of the same nature with those made by Khauje Ein ud Dien, have been preferred by Mahomed Cauzem Cawn. Whenever you have mentioned to me your suspicions of Khauje Ein ud Dien's fidelity, I observed, that in time past he had never been charged with any circumstance of ingratitude—that this world being fallible, it was impossible to develope the secret heart, or be answerable for the actions of any one—and circumspection is required. With respect to the arbitrary fines exacted by Khauje Ein ud Dien, I represented to you what he advanced on that subject: He has, in consequence of them, been dismissed, agreeable to your orders, and Rajah Surat Sing appointed, who waits only for a lucky moment to set off. In consequence of the secret intelligence received from Mahomed Cauzim Cawn, relative to Khauje Ein ud Dien, I proposed, if it should be agreeable to you, to direct his agent to give him notice to repair to the presence. Should he come, what course you please may be taken with him, and his coming will remove all suspicions respecting his fidelity. For the rest, I neither pretend to answer for his intentions, or do I mean to recommend him for employment. If he hesitates to come to Lucknow, the orders which have been sent to * Major Cook, to be on his guard, will be sufficient, as the Major will take care to execute them. As far as I have been informed, I have made you acquainted with the persons who intimidate and cast reproach upon others: In the end, the conduct of each will be known to you. You inform me, that " from the de-
" lay which has attended the making the settlement, the
" season of cultivation, as far as it respects the Kurriif, is
" already past, and that the Rubby is elapsing; that no one
" district is yet settled, and that several of the new Aumils
" are idling away their time at Lucknow;—and that it is
" adviseable, for the good of the Sircar, that both the new
" and old Aumils should be dismissed to the charge of their

* *The orders here referred to were never sent, tho' prepared. The Resident waited for Hyder Beg's opinion on the draft of the letter he proposed writing to Khauje Ein ud Dien, intending to inclose it in that to Major Cook. (Vide the draft.) Hyder Beg did not give his opinion until the succeeding day, and, in doing it, he materially altered the instructions to Major Cook. Hyder Beg to Mr. Bristow, dated the 3d of Rumzam; and Mr. Bristow to Major Cook, dated the 2d of August, 1783.*

" respective

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"respective districts."—How am I to reply to these matters, consistently with the respect I owe you?—With every possible demonstration of duty and respect towards you, I am perpetually attentive to the interests of the Sircar. Many of the new Aumils are already gone. Those who remain are busied in their affairs. They have in reality dispatched their Naibs. None of them have been detained by me. In the duties of respect I am ever more deficient. * I have submitted to you what has hitherto been the custom and practice of this country. It is not for me to force the repetition upon you. In the end, you will have an opportunity of putting my representations to the test, as you will those of interested and designing persons, who, in order to criminate me, misrepresent and falsify established rules. I am implicitly obedient to your commands: I evade not.—You observe to me, that the accounts of no one district are yet prepared. The delay proceeds from the new Aumils, who urge that they have not yet ascertained the real value of their respective districts. Such accounts as you may require of any particular district, I will furnish. With respect to the deductions which have been granted this year on account of drought, I am in hopes, if the present periodical rains prove favourable, to make it good from the old Aumils, by the increase which I have now in contemplation. It has been the custom for the respective Aumils to furnish the account receipts and balances in October. This it is that occasions them to postpone it, except a few, who last year fell in balance one half, notwithstanding they could not plead want of rain, and who now seek to settle at a reduced Jumma, and, in this intention, call their own private interest the interest of the public. In matters of this kind, so destructive to the interests of the Sircar, I cannot but hesitate. With respect to the old Aumils, whatever orders you may please to give, I shall make no evasion, but cause them respectively to prepare the Jumma Wausel Bauky. The preparation of accounts need not be productive of delay: It is only where the well-being of the Sircar is concerned, that I hesitate. As soon as I shall have ascertained the real state of the several districts, I will report them to you. In the end, Sir, these things will be evident to you. I am obedient, and ready to perform whatever you may direct. You are pleased to observe, that I have made such arrangements, that the responsibility of no one measure rests with you. I must confess I do not rightly understand the meaning of this observation. The arrangements I have made, are in strict conformity to that duty and respect I owe you. Hitherto, whatever you have

* *Expressed ironically in the original.*

been

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been pleafed to direct, with refpect to the Aumils, I have performed, and fo fhall continue to do. I can never fail in obedience and fidelity. Other circumftances, which are too prolix for a written addrefs, I fhall communicate when I have the honour to fee you. If the reafons I have, to the beft of my poor capacity, reprefented for poftponing the Jumma Waufel Bauky of the old Aumils, fhould meet your approbation, I fhall be happy; if not, fuch as you may require, I will caufe to be prepared immediately. In no one circumftance of duty or refpect am I deficient.

Mr. Briftow, in Reply to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 3d Rumzum.

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 2d inftant, on the fubject of "Khauje Ein ud Dien, Mirza "Mahomed Cauzem Cawn, and the adjuftment of the "accounts of the feveral Aumils." I do not mean to be the advocate of Mirza Mahomed Cauzem Cawn. Be pleafed, Sir, to act in the manner that fhall feem to you moft juft and proper. "You tell me, that the new Au-"mils plead the want of a true knowledge of the actual "ftate of their diftricts; and with refpect to the old ones, "you are in hopes that, if the periodical rains are fa-"vourable, you fhall be able to fettle for the increafe you "have now in contemplation." To my judgment it appears, that to fettle the charges of the feveral Aumils at this time, is a meafure which will be attended with great advantage to Government. The fettlement of the Jumma of the diftricts may afterwards take place in October, as you propofe. though I cannot myfelf approve the leaving it in fufpenfe. You are pleafed to inform me, that it has been ufual to fettle the Waufel Bauky in October. As you, Sir, are perfectly acquainted with the cuftoms and habits of this country, and experienced in the mode of conducting the affairs of it, and as you affure me to fettle the Jumma in the month of October is beft, it is impoffible that I fhould oppofe my opinion to your experience. To you, Sir, belongs the refponfibility of the meafure. I have the pleafure to inclofe you a lift of the diftricts not yet arranged, by way of memorandum; and I am to requeft, when you have leifure, you will be fo obliging as to furnifh me with a lift of the diftricts upon which you mean this year to give affignments for the payment of his Highnefs's perfonal expences, and the claims of the Company.

Hyder

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Hyder Beg Cawn in Reply, dated 3d Rumzaun.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter. Having represented to you the objections made by the new Aumils to the immediate settlement of the Wauzel Bauky, from their ignorance of the real state of their respective districts; and having acquainted you with the increase which, if the season is favourable, I propose upon the districts of the old Aumils; you are pleased to observe, that it would be for the advantage of Government, that an adjustment of the charges of the several Aumils should take place immediately; and that afterwards, as I propose, the Jumma might be settled in the month of October, though the keeping it in suspense was contrary to your opinion. In your letter of yesterday, you directed the Jumma Wausel Bauky accounts should be settled: In answer, I represented, as above, the objections, as they regarded the new and the old Aumils respectively. Had you, Sir, been pleased to direct the adjustment of the account charges, I could have had no objection, as those accounts are in actual preparation by the Aumils themselves. They have delivered in their requisitions, and I am employed in making the necessary enquiries of the officers of Government with respect to the propriety of each, agreeable to those requisitions. Having prepared the charges, collections, and Mutteyunna accounts, I shall lay them before you for your approbation, as I have already done by the claims of Mahomed Shuffy Cawn; others are preparing. The account charges of the last year's Aumils for that year I have already presented to you; and I am to request you will determine upon the increase and deductions to be allowed, that I may inform the several Aumils. This discussion may certainly be entered upon immediately; and, as is customary, is indeed already in train. The expediency, or otherwise, of the settlement which I propose to the Jumma Wausel Bauky in October, will appear, from the reasons which I have assigned at length. With respect to what you say relative to the evils of delay, it is not for me, who am obedient to your orders, to combat your sentiments. If it please the King to say it is night at noon day, subscribe to the doctrine, and say, Behold the moon and planets. I shall lay before you lists of the old and new Aumils, with the Jumma to be paid by each, fixed agreeable to the settlement of the Phussulla year 1190; and I will direct the officers to prepare the Jumma Wausel Bauky accounts, accordingly to the Jumma you may determine upon, and send them for your inspection. The assignments of the Company I am very ready to settle, in the manner and at the time most agreeable to you. I will do myself the pleasure to furnish

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you with a list of the several districts occupied by the new Aumils; and when you have selected such as you approve for the Company's assignment, I shall make them the first object of my attention. In this respect I have no objection to make. When I have the honour to see you to-morrow, I will inform you of the districts to which it yet remains to appoint Aumils, and act in conformity to your directions in that particular.

Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, dated 3d Ramzaun.

I was yesterday favoured with the draft of your letter, addressed to Khauje Ein ud Dien, which I detained in the expectation of the pleasure of seeing you; but as illness has prevented me from waiting upon you to day, I take this method of requesting that you will be so obliging as to write to Khauje Ein ud Dien in the terms of the draft, which is excellent. As Khauje Ein ud Dien is a very large sum in balance, it is necessary to take every possible means for the collection of the monies due (in money matters I favour no person). As self-interested persons, both far and near, make it their business to intimidate Khauje Ein-ud-Dien, and as Mahomed Kauzem Cawn would hardly have given the information he has given without proper enquiry, under these circumstances, it is expedient both to give Khauje Ein-ud-Dien the encouragement which your letter holds out to him; and also that, till the arrival of Maha Raja Surut Sing, he be kept in hand; for, as I said before, money is due from him. However Khauje Ein-ud-Dien may have for years past approved his fidelity, yet, for the reasons above assigned, there is cause of suspicion; and circumspection is necessary and proper, till he shall appear in the presence. Other matters I will communicate, when I have the pleasure of seeing you to-morrow.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply, dated 3d Rumzaun.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, approving the draft of mine to Khauje Ein-ud-Dien, which I submitted to you. If you are informed of the time Raja Surut Sing proposes to set off, you will oblige me by letting me know it.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major William Cook, or the Officer commanding at Barelly, dated 2d August, 1783.

From intelligence I have lately received, it appears that Khauje Ein-ud Dien was alarmed at your arrival at Barelly, and

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and at the report circulated about his dismission, and is in consequence taking steps to remit his property out of the Vizier's dominions; particularly that he had negociated bills of exchange on Paunniput, to the amount of six lacks of rupees, with the following Bankers, viz. Buxhyram, Ruttun Chund Buxhyram, Husbense Lall, and Geeworay Hursance. Suppositions are entertained, that he may hereafter abscond from the Vizier's dominions. His Highness has certainly resolved on dismissing him, though his resolution is not yet made public by authority; in order, however, to give Khauje Ein ud Dien every assurance in my power, that he may expect strict justice, I take the liberty to inclose a letter to him from myself, with a copy for your information. The heavy balance of sixteen lacks of rupees, due on account of the Honourable Company's assignments on him, renders the treatment of Khauje Ein ud Dien a matter of great importance, and it therefore becomes necessary that you should inform yourself particularly concerning his situation; and if you could secure his person without tumult, in the event of this measure being determined upon by the Vizier, every arrangement to afford you assistance will be previously taken, by the necessary orders being given to the officers of his government in Rohilcund.

I have apprized you of these circumstances *in confidence*, and must request that you will conceal them from the knowledge of any person; but at the same time watch the conduct of Khauje Ein ud Dien, and inform me of any particulars that should come to your knowledge in corroboration of the above circumstances.

Extract of a Lettter from Mahomed Cauzim Khan to Mr. Bristow, dated 3d Rumzaun, or 2d August, 1783.

I beg leave to represent to you, Sir, that the Collectorship of the Cutwauly of Moradabad has for a length of time been united to that of the Customs under Nutta Khan, and is at this time included in his general agreement with Government: yet, eight months since, in the Fussully year 1190, Khauje Ein ud Dien, for the purpose of imposing arbitrary fines and taxes upon all ranks, deprived Nutta Khan of the above Collectorship, and transferred it to Molovy Burkut Ullaw, and Chein Sake; who, in conjunction, and in the space of eight months, as above mentioned, paid into Khauje Ein ud Dien's Treasury Rs. 1,16,475, the amount of arbitrary taxes alone, which they had levied (exclusive of other impositions) in the districts of Moradabad, Aumzoha, Sumbul, and Chundossy Gunge. I have the honour to inclose you a detail statement of these arbitrary

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arbitrary taxes, as signed by Chien Suke, and the Chaudres, and under the seal of the Cauzy of Moradabad. I have also transmitted a copy of the above statement to Hyder Beg Cawn, which bears as small a proportion to the extent of these practices, and the miserable situation of the inhabitants of this country, as a handful of wheat does to the stack from which it has been plucked. Since upon this average we were to estimate the arbitrary taxes imposed on the district of Rohilcund, they would not fall short of fifteen lacks of rupees.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 6th Rumzaun, or 5th August, 1783.

I have just received a representation from Mahomed Cauzem Cawn, with an account of the arbitrary taxes collected by Chein Suke, in conjunction with Molovy Burkututa; the amount paid into the Treasury of Khauje Ein ud Dien by those persons alone, is stated at 1,16,470, rupees, and as exacted from the inhabitants of all ranks at the following places: Maradabad, Amroe, Sumbul, and Chundossy Gunge. The amount is signed by Chine Suke, and the Choudries of Moradabad, and has the seal of the Cauzy affixed. A copy of it has been transmitted to you. The oppressions and exactions of Khauje Ein ud Dien are by it explained and made known. If any orders for the detention of Chein Suke shall have been issued by order of his Excellency, you will oblige me by furnishing me with a transcript of them.

Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, in Reply, dated the 6th Rumzaun, or 5th August, 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter: I also have received a statement from Mahomed Cauzem Cawn of arbitrary taxes levied by Khauje Ein ud Dien. I had before the honour of acquainting you, that I had received a letter from Mahomed Cauzem Cawn on this subject; where he informed me that Chim Suke had made a declaration relative to the imposition of such taxes, and that he was preparing, and would furnish me with the amount. That very day, I sent directions to Mahomed Cauzem Cawn to detain Chein Suke, and to keep a register of the persons pointed out by him as having been concerned in levying arbitrary taxes, that an enquiry might take place; and that those who were convicted might be obliged to refund. I expect an answer from him the day after to-morrow; in the mean time I shall be obliged to you, if you will write to him not to discharge Chein Suke. Other matters

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ters I shall have the honour of stating to you to-morrow. It is necessary and highly proper to examine him, and every one who is guilty of neglecting the affairs of Government.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major William Cook, commanding in Rochilcund, dated 9th August, 1783.

I have delivered this letter to Raja Surut Sing, who is appointed by the Nabob Vizier to the superintendance of the province of Rohilcund, in the place of Khauje Ein ud Dien. The Raja will apply to you for assistance in the discharge of the duties of his office, and I am to request that you will grant it to him. I have particularly recommended it to the Raja, to shew you the attention due to your station.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 11th Rumzaun, or 10th August, 1783.

Be pleased to inform me, now that Maha Raja Surut Sing has received a Kelaut from the presence, upon what plan the business is arranged, and of the authorities and matters entrusted to his management.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply, dated 11th Rumzaun, or 10th August, 1783.

I am favoured with your letter. Khauje Ein ud Dien is dismissed from all his offices; Maha Raja Surut Sing is to go. If it be your pleasure, let orders be issued to the Maha Raja, that he should appoint those persons with whom the inhabitants are satisfied. You enquire of me, "now that Maha Raja Surut Sing has received a kelaut "from the presence, upon what plan the business is ar-"ranged, and the authority and matters entrusted to his "management?" I represent, that it is upon the plan you have formed. Maha Raja Surut Sing is obedient to your orders; he will obey you in whatever you may direct.

Copy of a Letter from Major Cook to Mr. Bristow, dated Barelly, 7th August, 1783.

I duly received your letter, of date 5th instant, dated 2d present month, and be assured the contents shall remain a profound secret. On my arrival at this place, the Khauje appeared to be much alarmed; and it is true that reports were spread of his dismission, which now and then still is propagated. In regard to the first part of the above, I im-

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pute his fears on account of the mutiny; and the latter, as he had observed to me, having some enemies writing to Lucknow against him, and not having the least idea of such measure having been in agitation, I suppose such reports without foundation. Recollect his requesting me to write to you in his favour, for he had often wrote, but to no purpose; and that he intended proceeding to Lucknow in the course of twenty or five-and-twenty days: This conversation, I believe, happened ten or twelve days ago. It now strikes me, in case he should prepare to offer to proceed from hence, what steps to take.

Having had daily complaints from the Bannians, &c. of my camp, who go to purchase grain, of their being detained, and even were made prisoners, by the Khauje's people at Pellibeat; on which circumstance, and other matters concerning the finishing cantonements (which are very forward) that morning, some hours prior to receiving your letter, I had requested of the Khauje to see him at my quarters. He came the next day, after some hesitation, and found him in some degree alarmed on coming in; and soon, after some conversation, gave me some hints, that the letter you wrote him had been dated five days prior to my sending it (which was on the 5th, the same day yours came to hand); and that there was a native Dawk for such letters, and an English one for Europeans. On his remark, I could not help remarking to him, whether he imagined I had detained his letter, or taken it from the other Dawk. He then observed, in what manner he was to forward his answer, through me, or by his Dawk? I told him, which every way he liked. Knowing your sentiments, made me act with the greatest caution, though such suspicion hurted me much.

In regard to seizing his person, I imagined I could do it without much tumult, particularly as this month is the Mussulman's holyday; and he is now generally at his garden, and an open place at some distance from Barelly.

As to the remittances, I must take time to make the proper enquiries; as I must be very careful how I act in that respect, for fear it should be found out, or come secretly to his knowledge.

I inclose you a list of his excellency the Vizier's troops at this station, also of the Khauje's in different parts of Barelly, as I am informed, which I believe I may depend upon. Should his Excellency the Vizier resolve to dismiss the Aumil, I could wish the letters, sent to the different officers commanding his troops *at this station*, were conveyed through me. By that means, I could take such step, that such letters would be delivered a short time before I carried my plan into execution, particularly those to Ajub Sing and

Ally

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Ally Rajah Beg, the two commandants of the Vizier's battations; also those to Meer ab Cawn and Agy Derab Cawn, two two Jemmadars, commanding a body of horse.

List of Troops.

	Vizier's.		Number of horse.
Meer Abdula Cawn	—	Jemmadar	250 Barelly.
Azy Derab Cawn	—	Do.	200 Do.
Mirza Madara Beg	—	—	75 Do.
Jaffier Cawn, and Purdull Cawn,	Jemmadars in our command	—	200 Do.
			Battalions.
Auzub Sing, commandant	—	—	4 or 500
Ally Rajah Beg, Do.	—	—	Do. Do.

One hundred horse with the Khajah as Orderlies.

Khauja's Troops.

Meer ab Cawn, Jemmadar 700 Matchlock men, dispersed about Barelly.

Abdula Cawn Jemmader } 200 horse.
Molby Golam Hyder Do. }

N. B. I understand the Khauja lately discharged a number of his troops, and daily discharged a few.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major Cook, commanding at Barelly, dated 11th August, 1783.

I have received your letter of the 7th instant, and thank you for the information it contains.

The inclosed is a duplicate of my address to you of the 9th instant. Raja Surat Sing set off from this place on the 8th, and will shortly arrive at Barelly. From the assurances given me by the Minister, I have reason to believe Khauje Ein ud Dien will attend at Lucknow, and not give you trouble in delivering over charge of his office; but if it should be necessary to proceed to extremities with him, I shall take an early opportunity of apprizing you; in the mean time I request you will watch over his conduct; and until Raja Surat Sing may have completed his commission, you will oblige me by continuing to communicate every intelligence to me, which may come to your knowledge.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 13th Rumzaun, 1197, or 12th August, 1783.

I have received your letter in answer to mine of the 11th of Rumzaun, on the subject of my enquires concerning the

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the arrangement of Maha Raja Surat Sing's business.—The words "plan and orders," as relating to me, surprise me. I have neither formed plans, nor given orders, in the Rohilcund business.

The whole is entirely your plan; and the responsibility rests with you. Be pleased to favour me with copies of the sunnuds, the purwannahs, or the orders, which his Highness or you may have issued concerning the said Raja's appointment. I enclose the list of the division of the districts of Rohilcund with which you furnished me. You will oblige me with information of the persons whom you have nominated to the vacant districts of Shajehanpore and Buddawan.

List referred to in the above.

Districts.	Aumils proposed by Hyder Beg Cawn, on Khaujo Ein ud Dien's dismission.
Barelly, —	Ray Goordaws Mull.
Butty Beet, —	Fyzoola Beg.
Cashypore, —	Nunderam.
Shier Coat, &c.	Sheik Currum Ally, and Zeig Chund.
Mujjily, &c. with the Districts of Nuttta Cawn,	Mirza-Mahomed Cauzim.
Buddawan, and Shajehanpore, &c.	

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I am favoured with your letter, telling me, "That you "have not, in the business of Rohilcund, formed or di"rected any arrangement:—The whole is my act: The "responsibility rests with me."—I am obedient—except by your order, I dare not transact any matter.

In the first place, the Aumils of that province were nominated by you. Afterwards, you repeatedly directed a General Superintendant to be appointed. I represented the circumstance to his Highness, who ordered that Mirza Ahmud Ally, and Amyre Cawn should hold the office, and Raja Jaggernout should be their accountant. Another plan was, the appointment of Maha Rajah Surat Sing, and Raja Jaggernaut. I stated the particulars to you;—you decided in favour of the two latter; and they were then honoured with the Kelaut. This day I represented to you, that such instructions as you might direct should be given to the Aumils: You ordered me to prepare the drafts. Except by your direction, or under your inspection, how could I issue shokas, or purwannahs?—I will present the drafts when I have the honour to wait upon you. Whenever you may direct me to do it, I shall cause them to be written,

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ten. I could not issue those to the Sepoys and Rasaldars without your orders and inspection. The originals accompany this letter. The plan of Maha Raja Surat Sing's deputation I have explained to you in the preceding part of this letter—now also let that be done which you may direct. I am obedient. I will execute whatever may be your orders. To-morrow, when I wait upon you, I will represent other matters.

Copy of a Letter from Major Cook to Mr. Bristow, dated Barelly, 10th August, 1783.

Since my last of date 7th instant, and agreeable to your's and the Vizier's instructions, I took particular care to have the best information concerning the Khajah. Yesterday I was informed of his having had many of the Phouzedars and Jemmadars, who had paid him large sums of money; and this evening I received information of his intention to leave this place secretly. He went to his camp an hour after sun-set, and every thing was ready for his departure; some of his own horses, and two elephants, about a coss off to wait for him. I ordered two companies to go round about, and encamp in the road, to stop him; and several peons to watch his motions. I received information of his being ready, and just going away. I immediately sent him a letter, which I had ready wrote, wishing to see him prior to his departure, and he hesitated; but the peon acquainted him of my troops being in motion, and two companies in front. He then came, and, on my enquiring concerning the step he was going to take, he declared he had received a letter from you, directing him to come. Knowing your sentiments, I requested to see the letter; on which I saw him much confused; and, after some time, he declared, not from you, but from his Vakeel. On finding him vary, I observed that I would detain him till I heard from you: which I have done without the least tumult. If I have erred, it was by wishing the good of the service. You will greatly oblige me by sending me a letter on the occasion; and to-morrow I will write you more fully.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 14th Rumzaun 1197, or 13th August 1783.

I have the draft of the letters which you prepared to the address of Major Cook, and Khauje Ein-ud Dien, copied fair, and enclose them to you. I trouble you to tell me, in plain and explicit terms, whether I shall dispatch the said letters; but I must inform you, that should Khauje Ein

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Ein ud Dien abscond on his being enlarged, the responsibility will rest with you. My reasons for writing in this manner, is in consequence of the following expression in your proposed draft of the English letter to Major Cook, viz. "Lest by chance, from this event, that is, "the detention of Khauje Ein ud Deen, doubts should "have arisen in his mind." Under these circumstances, previous to the dispatch of the letters, it behoves you to consider very maturely, that in leaving his sons and family at Barelly, the appearance of the Khauje at Lucknow is by no means certain; because, in the event of his absconding, his engagements would not be made good by them. In this case, would it not be more adviseable and expedient, having for the present detained the said Khauja there, you should make such arrangements as shall secure his attendance at the presence, and the performance of his engagements to government, beyond a doubt? This is what suggests itself to me, and I have therefore written it to you. It is, however, entirely at your option to act as shall seem best to you, upon reflection. I beg you will favour me with your determination. I am ready to give you my assistance, in the execution of it.

Draft of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major Cook, as proposed by Hyder Beg Cawn.

Khauje Ein ud Dien left his sons and family in Barelly, and intended to proceed to Lucknow, when you detained him. In this case, I write you, that you should dispatch him to the presence, provided he leaves his sons and family at Barelly, giving him every possible confidence and encouragement, as it is not intention to proceed against the Khauje, except after enquiring, and upon proof. You will secretly watch the sons and family of the said Khauje, *least by chance, from this event, doubts may have arisen in his mind.* If he should ask to bring his sons and family along with him to the presence, you will transmit information of it, that the Khauje, with his sons and family, may afterwards be sent for.

Draft of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Khauja Ein ud Dien, as proposed by Hyder Beg Cawn.

I approve the intention you formed of proceeding to the presence; but as the news of your dismission was public in Rohilcund, and you did not inform the Major of your intention, he may have detained you on this account. I now write to the Major.—Having apprized him, then set off.—

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off.—Speedily come with confidence to the presence.—Whatever is just, that shall be done.

Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, in Reply.

I was desirous of informing you of the circumstances which I had collected from the newspapers, when I was favoured with your letter.—I have received other intelligence this day.—It appears the Major has confined Khauja Ein ud Dien.—In this case there is room for consideration.—I before represent to you, that "the said Khauje "had not been guilty of ingratitude during a series of "years—that people both far and near excite his fears—"that if he intended to proceed to the presence, and left "his sons and family at Barelly, then the doubts con-"cerning his fidelity would cease—and that the Major "might, until the Khauja's, secretly watch his sons "and family. Under those circumstances, the Major "should not have forbid his coming. When the Khauja "shall arrive here, you might institute a retrospection "into his conduct in any way you pleased, and the doubts "of his ingratitude would cease."

For instance, the Khauja, in proof of his sincerity and fidelity, left his sons and family at Barelly, and intended to proceed to Lucknow, when it so happened that the Major confined him. It is now, therefore, better that he should remain with the Major; and hereafter, what you may be pleased to direct, and that which is most adviseable, shall be ordered. What people told the Khauja, that he should be confined, is now verified. If the Major had not put him into confinement, and only forbid his marching, there would then have been room to say, that the Major had caused the delay, in expectation of your orders. As he is put into confinement, caution becomes necessary; events have made it so; otherwise, my opinion of his sincerity and attachment was proved by his leaving his sons and family at Barelly, with an intention of proceeding to Lucknow. Now that he is put into confinement, caution is necessary. Let him remain with the Major.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major Cook, commanding at Barelly, dated 13th August 1783.

I have received your letter of the 10th instant. In the absence of the Nabob Vizier at Fyzabad, I have referred the consideration of the measure you followed, of detaining Khauja Ein ud Dien, to his Highness's Minister Hyder Beg Cawn; and, as that Minister is invested with full

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full powers to act in his behalf, and it is his request to me that Khauja Ein ud Dien should remain in confinement under your charge, I am accordingly to desire your compliance.

I hope Raja Surat Sing will, by the time this letter reaches you, have arrived, and that you will grant him your assistance in preserving the peace of the province.

I must now recommend to you to continue your enquiries concerning Khauje Ein ud Dien's remittances to Panniput, as particularized in my letter to you of the 2d instant.

Inclosed is the Vizier's order to his commanders of cavalry, directing them to obey Raja Surut Sing, the contents of which should be communicated to the persons to which it relates.—The original I beg you will deliver to the Rajah.—I also inclose the Vizier's orders to his commandants, Ajub Sing and Rujjib Ally Beg, in the same manner, directing them to yield obedience to Surut Sing; which should be immediately sent to him.

Copy of his Highness the Nabob Vizier's Shoka to Ajub Sing and Rujjub Ally Beg; dated the 7th Rumzaun 1197, or 10th August 1783.

Raja Surut Sing is appointed from the presence to make the settlement of the districts of Barelly, &c. It is requisite that day and night you attend the said Raja in the discharge of your duty, and on every occasion yield him obedience, as I have made him the master of that province. Those whom he may deem deserving of their trusts he will retain.

Copy of his Highness the Vizier's Shoka to his Commanders of Cavalry in Barelly.

Be it known to my commanders of cavalry stationed in Barelly, &c. that I have appointed Maha Raja Surut Sing to make the settlement of the districts of Barelly, &c. I therefore write you, that whomever the Raja may keep with him, must on no account disobey his orders, or neglect their duty. Those whom he may dismiss, will proceed to the presence.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 15th of Rumzaun 1197, or 14th August 1783.

I have received your letter, in answer to mine of the 14th of Rumzaun, and understand the contents; agreeable to which, I have written to Major Cook.

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It is requisite that you dispatch letters to the Naibs of the said Khauja, agreeable to the inclosed list, giving them assurances and encouragement, that they may continue with confidence in the discharge of their duty.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your letter. Agreeable to your orders, and the list, I will write letters of the encouragement and assurance to the Naibs, on the part of Khauje Ein ud Dien, that they may continue with confidence in the discharge of their duty.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn.

"I am favoured with your letter of the 13th of Ram-"zaun, in answer to mine relative to the nature of Raja "Surut Sing's, and Raja Jaggernaut's appointments of "Superintendant, together with three Purwannahs, ad-"dressed to Rajub Ally Beg, Agieb Sing, and the com-"manders of cavalry stationed at Barelly." Thinking the said Purwannahs could not arrive too speedily in Rohilcund, I have inclosed them in a letter to Major Cook.

In case Maha Raja Surut Sing should have arrived, he will deliver them to him; but if not, he will cause them to be sent to the parties above-named, that thus, from the beginning, order may be established.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reyly.

I have received your favour. Your dispatching the Purwannahs to Major Cook is very proper. They will be of service in preserving peace and good order.

Copy of a Letter from Major Cook to Mr. Bristow, dated Barelly, 11th August 1783.

I understand, by reports in town, though not from authority I can depend on, that the Khauja was suspected of absconding himself, in case another Aumil was appointed; nor can I form an idea at present of his intention, or get the necessary information I could wish to have on that head: however, I understand from himself, that he received a letter yesterday from his Vakeel at Lucknow, informing him of another person having been appointed in his room, and on that account he wished to proceed immediately to Lucknow, he having, prior to that, been made to understand that he should still be continued in his present appointment.—He (the Khauja) solicits me much to know if I received any instructions concerning detain-

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ing him, or of money matters. I wave giving a direct anſwer, and conſtantly reply, my proceedings are on account of his attempting to leave this place in a ſecret manner, alſo, of his declaring to me having received a letter from you, directing him to proceed immediately to Lucknow, and afterwards having diſavowed having received ſuch a letter; all which circumſtances appeared to me in a very ſtrong light, and gave me ſuſpicion of his going elſewhere; therefore was under the neceſſity to detain him, and he to remain near my camp, till I could receive the Vizier's orders. I have requeſted him to write to you, and ſtill to continue giving his directions concerning the truſt put in him, till I could hear from you. You may now be well aſſured that I ſhall make it my buſineſs to get every neceſſary intelligence concerning his conduct. I have offered to attend him at his quarters in town all day, that he might tranſact his buſineſs, and to pitch his tents near my camp, and there to reſide during the night.—He declined going to his houſe, and has ordered his tents, &c. to be pitched for his purpoſe; and nothing ſhall be wanting, on my ſide, to make it agreeable to him. It is now currently reported that Surut Sing, the Nabob's Dewan, is appointed Aumil in the Khauja's place, and of his having nominated another perſon to act, which is on his way up. I have taken every precaution, in caſe any tumult ſhould happen; but I may venture to ſay, there is not the leaſt appearance of ſuch taking place; however, have to requeſt you will favour me, as ſoon as poſſible, with inſtructions regarding the ſtep I have taken, and I flatter myſelf will meet with your approbation.

Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 16th of Rumzaun 1197, or 15th Auguſt 1783.

The day before yeſterday you favoured me with a liſt of perſons whom you nominated to the diſtricts of Buddawan and Shajehanpore, out of which I object to Zyne ul Abdine Cawn and Myre Imaun ut Dine. The characters of the ſaid perſons are well known. In regard to the other I have no objection. It is at your option to appoint whom you pleaſe. In caſe it is your pleaſure even to appoint Zyne ul Abdine Cawn and Myre Imaun ut Dien, do it, though I diſapprove.

I entertained hopes, that by the appointment of Raja Surut Sing to the office of Superintendant, his Highneſs's authority, and the regulation and arrangement of the diſtricts of Rohilcund, late under Khauje Ein ud Dien, might have been eſtabliſhed. From the contents of the drafts of the ſhokas which you prepared for the Aumils, the

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the Raja will have the authority of making the aſſeſſments upon the crops; where then is the advantage of ſeparate Aumils? The old pernicious ſyſtem is confirmed, and, inſtead of *Aumil*, the office is denominated *Superintendant*. The province of Rohilcund is again to become the ſovereignty of a new Aumil, entruſted with the ſole and unlimited power. In my opinion, every Aumil who may be appointed ſhould have a ſeparate eſtabliſhment; his Wajeb ul Arz ſhould ſeparately receive his Highneſs's ſign manual; he ſhould be ſeparately reſponſible for the revenue, and anſwer for the peace and good order of his own diſtricts.

The reaſon of Maha Raja Surut Sing's deputation, is owing to Rohilcund being a frontier and diſtant province. After the Raja ſhall have received from every Aumil his Wajeb ul Arz, and the accounts of his diſtricts, let him, after making his own inveſtigations, report upon them to the preſence, and whatever may be hereafter ordered, that he will do.

As you repoſe entire confidence in the Rajah's juſtice and integrity, let him be entruſted with authority to decide the diſputes of Aumils, Zemindars, and the Beiats, inhabitants of their diſtricts, &c. concerning their boundaries, that every man may receive juſtice, and that in future * Moſſaderra, according to the uſage of Khauja Ein ud Dien, may be totally aboliſhed.

The troops ſhould be ſubject to the Rajah's authority;—let him ſtation ſuch as are neceſſary with each Aumil. In like manner let him act with reſpect to the defence of Daranaghurs. The remainder of the troops ſhould remain with the Raja, that they may be detached according to the neceſſity of the ſervice; and that he ſhould, under no pretence, make levies of troops, &c. except by orders from the preſence.

I have wrote the drafts of the Shokahs which you have prepared, and the Raja's Wajeb ul Arz, on one ſide of the paper, and what I have ſuggeſted, on the other, and incloſe them to you. In caſe two or three days be neceſſary to determine the arrangements, be pleaſed to addreſs a general order to all Khauja Ein ud Dien's Aumils to yield obedience.—I have written you what has occurred to me; it is at your option to adopt it or not; and whatever plan you may reſolve upon, I am ready to give you my aſſiſtance in the execution.

The following is the liſt of perſons propoſed by Hyder Beg Cawn for Aumils, delivered by him to the Reſident, the 13th of Auguſt 178

* *Arbitrary fines.*

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List of Persons proposed for Aumils of Buddawan and Shajehanpore.—Whatever may be ordered shall be done.

Every man is described according to my opinion of his abilities.—What may happen upon trial is the test.

Ashruff Cawn for Buddawan, provided the people be satisfied with him.

I understand by the news-papers, that Azum Ally Cawn, the present Aumil of Buddawan, &c. has the character of being attentive to the cultivation of the country and the prosperity of the people. I am myself uninformed of his conduct as an Aumil, and punctuality in his payments.

Myre Wujjy ud Dien was formerly employed, and is capable of having charge of a country of two or three lacks of rupees.

Khauja Imaun Oolla Cawn was formerly employed, and is capable of having charge of a country of two lacks of rupees.

Mirza Gostime was formerly employed, and is capable of having charge of a country of two lacks of rupees.

Ray Surroop Sook Sing was formerly employed; for some time he held the office of Deputy Custom Master of Allahabad, and Deputy of the Talooke Futtypore, under Roy Curpa and Jesput Roy. It does not signify if he be given an office of one lack of rupees.

Zyne ul Abdine Cawn was formerly employed. Now let more or less, according to your pleasure, be proposed for him.

Myre Imaun Ally, capable of the charge of two lacks of rupees.

Myre Imaun ud Dien was entrusted with the charge of a district of four or five lacks of rupees during the late Vizier's administration. Now let it be according to your pleasure.

The Zemindars are in charge of the Zylla Shawjehanpore, and pay the revenue well.—The particulars are as follows: viz.

Shawjehanpore, under Abdal Rhaman.
Poana, under Bugwunt Sing.
Caunt, under Myan Cottob ud Dine.

Myze Abdulla was formerly employed, and is capable of having charge of a country of two lacks of rupees.

The Wajub ul Arz of Maha Raja Surut Sing.	Observations by Mr. Bristow.
Agreeable to your Highness's orders, your two servants cherished under your	

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roof, and writers of government, are going to regulate the districts of Barelly, &c.

Be pleased to let Aumils be appointed from the presence, we will not fail in any respect, to the utmost of our abilities, in our attention to the prosperity and cultivation of the country, and will perform our duty as well-wishers. Hereafter, the Aumils are responsible for the increase and decrease. We think it a higher honour to carry the slippers of the presence, than to be invested with Subadarries.

I understand, from Raja Surut Sing's representation, that the Aumils are responsible for the increase and decrease. It is therefore, in my opinion, proper they should be invested with the authority in their respective districts, and the Raja should, according to the plan laid down in my address to you, hold the office of superintendant of the Aumils appointed to the districts late under Khauja Ein ud Dien.

Be pleased to let orders be issued to the troops stationed there, to yield obedience to us; and that it is at the Duwan's option, in cases of disobedience, to retain or dismiss the parties offending.

Very proper, while they may remain with the Raja; when stationed with the Aumils, to yield obedience to them. In cases of tumult or war, the Raja may have authority to withdraw from the Aumils such troops as the emergency may require.

Be pleased to let a warrant receive the sign manual, granting us the same authorities, with respect to the entertaining troops, as Khauja Ein ud Dein. Exclusive of which, be pleased to invest us with powers of using the sign manual in our discretion, according to the emergency of the service.

I am uninformed of the powers with which Khauja Ein ud Dien was invested. Be pleased to communicate them to me, and I will give you an answer on this article.

The country belongs to the government, and the Aumils will be appointed to hold their offices in Amaany. Be pleased to let the allowances on account of deputies, accomptants, writers, and the establishment of Sebundy, receive the sign manual.

These concern the Aumils. Such as are required will be passed in their Wajjib ul Arz. The Raja may have a separate establishment of the few officers which are necessary to assist him in the discharge of his duty.

Be pleased to authorize, under the sign manual, a re-

Relates to the Wajjeb ul Arz of the Aumils.

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mission of the beit, fees of deputies, of accomptants, and of treasurers deputed to the interior parts of the province.

Our expences will be much increased by our deputation. Be pleased to fix our salary under the sign manual.

Depends on his Highness's favour.

Be pleased to authorize, under the sign manual, the family allowances of the Zemindars and Saghadars, or petty Zemindars; the grants of money or land in daily charity, to persons, under the heads of Rooziinadar, remissions, and the charges of collection of the office of customs.

Relates to the Wajub ul Arz of the Aumils.

We are writers of government. If Mahomed Cazem should treat us in the same manner he has done Khauja Ein ud Dien, we should suffer great disgrace. On this head as it may be ordered.

If Mirza Mahomed Cazem has failed in the discharge of his duty, or should interfere with the Raja, his conduct will be enquired into at the presence; besides which, he is independant of the Raja.

Our honour and reputation are his Highness's gift. —We hope they may be ever preserved in your auspicious view.

The office of superintendant of Rohilcund is granted to you, and at the same time you are continued in the Dewanny.

Draft of a Shoka to Maha Raja Surut Sing, as proposed by Hyder Beg Cawn.

N. and M. having been appointed Aumils of the under-mentioned districts, you will conduct the business with them; and you will carefully superintend the conduct of the several Aumils appointed to Barelly districts, &c. You will adjust account receipts and balances of each Aumil, and transmit them to the

Draft of a Shoka to Maha Raja Surut Sing, as proposed by Mr. Bristow.

N. and M. having been appointed Aumils of the under-mentioned districts, will proceed thither, and diligently and faithfully apply themselves to the cultivation and improvement of their several districts. Each Aumil will receive a separate Sunnud from the presence, and will be made responsible for the claims

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the presence, that the true state of the country may be known. On account of the drought last year, the collections have fallen in balance. By the blessing of God, there will be no want of rain; and you will, in fixing the assessments, make such an accurate investigation as may secure the government from loss, and the people from oppression.

claims of government, and the well-being of the inhabitants respectively.—And we having further thought proper to appoint you, Maha Raja Surut Sing, to be the general superintendant of the districts lately under the management of Khauje Ein ud Dien, we direct that you procure from each Aumil a Wajjeb ul Arz, together with the accounts of the districts; and having carefully examined them, in order to make yourself master of the actual state of the several districts, you will report the result of your enquiries to us, and afterwards conform to such orders as may be issued to you from the presence. Again, you will be careful to settle any disputes or differences arising among the Aumils on the subjects of their respective boundaries, and report your proceedings on this head to us. You will forbid the imposition of arbitrary taxes.

The Mutteyienna establishment will be under your command; and you will make it your business to station such a force with each Aumil, as may be requisite for preserving peace and good order throughout the country: You will further appoint proper detachments to the Daranaghur, &c. frontier stations. Provision being made for those services, the force which may remain with you you will employ as occasion may require; but you are on no pretence whatever to augment your military

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tary establishment without express directions from the presence.

Draft of a Circular Letter to the Aumils of Rohilcund, as proposed by Huger Beg Cawn.

We have appointed you Aumil of dis-trict; and we have deputed our well-beloved Maha Raja Surut Sing to the general superintendance of the district of Barelly, &c. The Raja is our trusty Dewan, to whom you will pay obedience; and, having made your collections, you will communicate with the Raja, relative to the regulation of your district, which he will provide for; and in every thing you will conform to his orders. Any failure on your part, in this respect, will be attended with immediate suspension.

Draft of a Circular Letter to the Aumils of Rohilcund, as proposed by Mr. Bristow.

We have appointed and constituted you Aumil of and we enjoin you to attend faithfully and diligently to the cultivation and improvement of your district, and to transmit to the presence, through Rajah Surut Sing, your Wajub ul Arz, in order to its receiving our signature. You will afterwards act in strict obedience to it. We have further thought proper to appoint Raja Surut Sing to the general superintendance of the districts late under the management of Khaja Ein ud Dien. We have given him the command of the Mutteyunna, and he will receive from each Aumil his Wajub ul Arz; and, having examined the accounts of the district, he will make his report to the presence; and to this end you are hereby directed to furnish him with the above-mentioned papers and accounts; and you will make application for such military force, as may be required for the preservation of peace and order within your district, to the Raja, who will furnish them regularly, agreeably to the orders of the presence. In case any disputes or differences should arise

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arise with the other Aumils or Zemindars, on the subject of your respective frontiers, you will submit them to the decision of the Raja; to whom also you will communicate, from time to time, the occurrences of your district, keeping always in remembrance the situation of the Raja, as general superintendant of the districts late under the management of Khauja Ein ud Dien; you will attend strictly to his advice and counsel, as being for the good of the public. His report of your conduct in this particular will have great weight with us.

From Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, in Reply; dated the 16th Rumzaun 1197, or 15th August 1783.

I have had the honour to receive your letter; and I have sent an answer, in conformity to your orders, to Raja Surut Sing, on the subject of his Wajjeb ul Arz, &c. The Wajjeb ul Arz, and the draft of the circular letters, were not mine, but the Raja's; and I presented them to you, the rough draft, and without signature, that I might afterwards act, with respect to them, in the way you should command: That the Aumils should be appointed from the Huzzoor, was the request of Raja Surut Sing. The orders of the superior lords are two-fold: In the one instance, conforming to ancient usage; in the other, causing ancient usage to subscribe to their will. The custom of this government, which has existed sixty-five years, is an example of the first; the orders which, in conformity to your plan and directions, I now send Raja Surut Sing, of the second.

You are pleased to observe, that I have the utmost reliance upon the justice and integrity of the Raja.

Maha Raja Surut Sing is the Dewaun of this government. During the reign of the late Nabob, and after the accession of his Highness, when you, Sir, were here before, he was Aumil of Rohilcund. You will be pleased, Sir, so far only to rely upon him, as you shall think he merits your confidence.

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On the subject of the Aumils still remaining to be appointed, and upon other affairs, I shall have the honour to confer with you personally, and receive your commands. You were pleased to order a circular letter to the Aumils late under the superintendance of Khauja Ein ud Dien. On this subject you will oblige me by directing a draft to be prepared, that I may cause the letters to be written agreeably to it.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 17th Rumzaun 1197, or 16th August 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, in reply to mine on the subject of the appointment of Raja Surut Sing to be superintendant of the districts late under the management of Khauja Ein ud Dien. Whatever suggested itself to me as advantageous to government, I communicate it to you without reserve. I gave no orders: The measure rests solely with you, Sir: You will carry it into execution, or not, as you may see fit; and whenever you shall have come to a final resolution on this matter, I shall be ready to afford you any assistance depending upon me.

Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, in Reply; dated 17th Rumzaun 1197, or 16th August 1783.

I have had the honour to receive your letter.—I am obedient and submissive; I cannot make the least objection to the execution of any order, on any subject you may please to issue. With respect to Raja Surut Sing, I will wait on you with the plan, and receive and conform to your commands concerning it.

Copy of a Letter from Major Cook to Mr. Bristow, dated Barelly, 13th August 1783.

Permit me to acquaint you, by the intelligence I hourly receive, that the country seems in perfect tranquillity regarding the Khauja's being detained. He (the Khauja) is encamped near my tent, at my requesting, indeed I may say my insisting on it; by that means I have my forces collected together in case of an alarm. All persons are permitted to attend him, and the business of the country is carried on by him as usual; at the same time I cannot but observe, as I have not put a guard over his person till I receive instructions for that purpose, for fear it might put a stop to all public business within his province, and prove detri-

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detrimental to the service—I have a chain of centries during the night, and permit no person to come or go from his tents after ten o'clock; and make it a practice to send (seemingly as a compliment to him) several times during the day to know how he is, also just before I go to bed. Still, his tents being surrounded with walls gives me great uneasiness, for fear of his making his escape, though I watch him closely. I forgot to inform you, in my last letter, that I have been made to understand, if I would permit him (the Khauja) his liberty at large, a sum would be deposited to me as security for his appearance at any time; which I declined.

True Copies and Translations.

JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.
WM. COWPER, Assistant.

True Copies of Papers
received from Mr. Bristow.
E. Hay,
Actg. Sec. to the Secret Department.

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Copy Proceedings and Correspondence relative to the State and Condition of the Country of Oude, and its Dependencies, and of the Reigning Family thereof, including the Charges made by Mr. Hastings against Mr. Bristow, &c. &c. &c.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 6th October 1783.

From Hyder Beg Khan: Received September 27th 1783.

Usual Introduction.

THE disputes which have arisen with Mr. Bristow, and the violences exercised by that gentleman have been repeatedly communicated to you by his Highness, and by me.

On every occasion, and at every time, when Mr. Bristow has offered such violences, as Colonel Martin was Mr. Bristow's friend, I gave information of those circumstances to him, and he, as a friend, advised him against such measures; but the self-sufficiency of Mr. Bristow would never suffer the advice of any one to make its proper impressions. In the representations I have made to you, I have never deviated from the truth. Copies of such correspondence as has passed between Mr. Bristow and me on public affairs, I have transmitted to you. Colonel Martin is acquainted with such matters as have passed verbally between us; and indeed, with those which have been the subjects of our correspondence. If you think proper, let the necessary orders be sent to Colonel Martin, and the truth of the foregoing particulars will be made known to you by his evidence.

His Highness, and I, your servant, hope your justice; and that from impartial justice we shall obtain redress.

The interest of the Company's Surcars have never yet been neglected, nor shall they in future be neglected.

Concludes as usual.

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, the 14th October 1783.

THE Governor-general informs the Board that he has heard from good authority, that the early crop has generally failed up the country, and the famine has some time been felt in the western parts towards Delhi, and that a scarcity is already apprehended down as far as Benares.

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Such part of the Secret Proceedings of the 29th ultimo, as relate to this subject, are transferred to this department, and recorded as follows:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter I have received from the Resident at the Vizier's court; and I cannot help remarking upon it, that it is very strange he should refer your honourable Board to me for information upon the mode of supplying grain for the troops here, as he cannot be ignorant that his Excellency the Vizier's agents are wholly entrusted with the furnishing supplies of every kind for the troops at this station.

And I should on that account have applied to him upon an emergency of that nature. For if he would exert the authority vested in him, there would be no danger of the troops suffering from the scarcity which he seems to think we have such an alarming prospect of. And in order to prepare against the fatal effects of the famine we are threatened with, I hope your honourable Board will in your wisdom think fit to order stores of every kind of grain to be sent up here from the Lower Provinces in good time, but I cannot presume to point out to you what is necessary on the occasion, as you must be informed on that head better than I possibly can be.

Although the crop of the first season has totally failed, I have yet some hope that the following season may be a plentiful one; for two years ago we had here a similar failure of the first crop, but a fall of rain at the close of season produced a plentiful crop of the second, and so prevented a scarcity. I am, &c.

Cawnpore, (Signed) JAMES MORGAN,
10th Sept. 1783. Colonel, commanding 2d brigade.

Colonel James Morgan, commanding in the Field.

Sir,

The alarming prospect of a famine, from the failure of the periodical rains until this advanced season of the year, obliges me to request you will transmit your opinion to the Governor-general and Council, on the most eligible mode of furnishing the quantity of grain which shall be required for the subsistence of the troops under your command, during the period so dreadful a calamity may be likely to last. I have referred the honourable Board to you for particular information on those heads.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Sept. 8th 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true copy. (Signed) Ja. Morgan.

Honourable

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Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

It is with the utmoſt concern I inform you, that the periodical rains have been hitherto ſo exceedingly unfavourable, as to expoſe theſe provinces to the moſt dreadful of all calamities, a famine. Suppoſing even we ſhould, for the ſhort period that remain of the ſeaſon, have the moſt plentiful rains, ſtill the miſchief to the Kurrief crop muſt be very great. For three years paſt, the rains during the latter end of the ſeaſon, and the uſual ſhowers in the months of December or January (which are alſo neceſſary to furniſh plentiful crops) have failed, both in the Vizier's dominions and the adjacent countries. At Delhi and Agra, numbers have periſhed from the ſcarcity, and it is a circumſtance I relate with the deepeſt ſorrow, that ſuch was the alarming ſtate of the Vizier's dominions, as to preclude his Highneſs from affording to the neighbouring people the aſſiſtance which humanity ſhould otherwiſe have prompted.

The ſcarcity was beginning to rage in the Froubier provinces of Rolhi Cund and Etaya, and a prohibition of the exportation of grain became a meaſure of abſolute neceſſity. On this head I have already tranſmitted information to your honourable Board.

The unſettled ſtate of the Vizier's dominions, the great abuſe of authority in every branch of his Highneſs's government, and the poverty of all ranks of men, afford a proſpect, the diſtreſsful conſequences of which are beyond the powers of deſcription. I hope, Gentlemen, ſo circumſtanced, that I ſhall be excuſed for ſuggeſting thoſe means which occur to me for the alleviation of the evil; the putting an entire ſtop to it will I fear be totally impracticable.

The ſituation of the countries to the Weſtward being ſimilar to our own, it is impoſſible to hope for ſupplies from thoſe quarters—his Highneſs can only expect aſſiſtance from the Company's provinces; and in this caſe, I would recommend to your honourable Board to grant a remiſſion of duties, and every encouragement to merchants who ſhall import grain into the Vizier's dominions. The ſame remiſſion of duties ſhould be publiſhed by his Highneſs.

The ſupply of grain to your troops will become a matter of immediate and previous conſideration; and I beg leave to recommend that you take this important object under your own inſpection, by appointing proper perſons, either in the Company's or Vizier's dominions, to provide the neceſſary quantities of grain, and that it ſhall be kept in ſtore at Cawnpore, and Futty Gur.

I have

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I have addressed the commanding officers, requesting they would transmit their opinions to your honourable Board on the most eligible mode of furnishing the supplies, and the quantity required.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Sept. 8th 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Resolved, That the duties be taken off for two months from the 1st October, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country, and that the Board do then consider of the necessity of prolonging the term.

The following orders were in consequence issued.

John Shore, Esq. acting President, and the other Members of the Committee of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

The Resident at Lucknow having represented to the honourable the Governor-general and Council, that the periodical rains have been hitherto so unfavourable as to expose the Vizier's provinces to the most dreadful of all calamities, a famine; and the Board deeming it incumbent upon them to provide for their relief as far as they can, and for the subsistence of the Company's troops in the Vizier's dominions in this time of scarcity, have been pleased to resolve, that the duties be taken off for two months, beginning with the first day of next month, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country; after which period the Board will consider the necessity, if any should exist, for prolonging the term.

This information is conveyed to you by their order, that you may make the same public throughout the Company's provinces.

I am, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
29th September 1783. Sub-secretary.

John Mackenzie, Esq. President, and the other Commissioners of Customs.

Gentlemen,

The Resident at Lucknow having represented to the honourable Governor-general and Council, that the periodical rains have been hitherto so unfavourable as to expose the Vizier's provinces to the most dreadful of all calamities, a famine; and the Board deeming it incumbent upon them to provide for their relief as far as they can, and for the subsistence of the Company's troops in the

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the Vizier's dominions in this time of scarcity, have been pleased to resolve, that the duties be taken off for two months, beginning with the first day of next month, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country; after which period the Board will consider the necessity, if any should exist, for prolonging the term. You are directed by the honourable Board to issue the necessary orders in consequence to the officers of your department.

I am, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. Hay,
29th September 1783. Sub-secretary.

John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at his Excellency the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I am directed by the honourable the Governor-general and Council to acknowledge their receipt of your letter, dated the 8th instant, and to acquaint you that, in consequence of the information which it conveys to them, that the periodical rains have been hitherto so very unfavourable as to expose the Vizier's provinces to the dreadful calamity of a famine; they have been pleased to issue orders, and to direct that the same may be made public, that the duties be taken off for two months, beginning with the first day of the next month, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country; after which period the Board will consider the necessity, if any should exist, for prolonging the term.

I am, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
the 29th Sept. 1783. Sub-secretary.

Colonel James Morgan, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

I am directed by the honourable the Governor-general and Council, to acknowledge their receipt of your letter dated the 10th instant, and to acquaint you, in reply to it, that they have been pleased to issue orders, and to direct that the same may be made public, that the duties be taken off for two months, beginning with the first day of next month, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country; after which period the Board will consider the necessity, if any exist, for prolonging the term.

I am, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
the 29th Sept. 1783. Sub-secretary.

Francis

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Francis Fowke, Esq. Resident at Benares.

Sir,

The honourable the Governor-general and Council having received information that the periodical rains have been hitherto so very unfavourable as to expose the Vizier's provinces to the most dreadful of all calamities, a famine; and that a scarcity is already apprehended as far down as Benares; I am directed to acquaint you, that they have been pleased to issue orders, and to cause the same to be made public, that the duties be taken off for two months, beginning with the first day of next month, from the transportation of grain of all kinds to the Upper Country; after which period the Board will consider the necessity, if any should exist, for prolonging the term.

I am, &c.

Council Chamber, the 29th Sept. 1783. (Signed) E. HAY, Sub-secretary.

Read the following letters and enclosures from Mr. Bristow.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Under date the 8th instant, I had the honour to inform you of the melancholy prospect of an approaching famine; and it is with the deepest concern I am necessitated to address you again on this disagreeable subject. Should we yet have a favourable change of weather, the Ruby harvest would be saved; but as the season is so far advanced, it is, in my opinion, unsafe to place any reliance on fortuitous events, and every possible expedient should be adopted to alleviate the dreadful consequences which are apprehended. The inclosed copy of my correspondence with the commanding officers (No. 1) will explain how very severely a scarcity is already felt, from mere apprehension of a famine; for as the evil cannot exist at the present period, the cause must proceed from some fatal error in the management of the Vizier's affairs; and a calamity, which in itself is shocking to humanity, is thus aggravated by the abuse of power, and the anarchy which prevail in every part of his Highness's dominions. So inadequate are the measures followed to the object to be attained, that the necessary supplies for the Nabob's household, and the inhabitants of Lucknow, are furnished with difficulty. I speak from what I have really experienced, having for a whole day been unable to procure a small quantity of grain sufficient for the support of my family. The inconveniencies we are likely to suffer, have induced me to propose to the gentlemen of Lucknow our purchasing a stock of grain equal to our own consumption, and

and that of our servants and dependants, including the Resident's guard, and that every man should receive his quota, paying the prime cost.—By this plan we shall be relieved from disputes with the Vizier's subjects, and the disagreeable necessity we now find ourselves under of applying to his Highness, which is actually the case, for his influence to enforce our daily supplies of the necessaries of life. Sensible, Gentlemen, of the infamy which would deservedly attend my engaging in commercial concerns, to benefit by the miseries of mankind, and knowing how injuriously the characters of some respectable persons were aspersed during the famine in Bengal, I think it a duty I owe my own reputation to make this declaration of my intentions, and solicit your approbation. I further intend to leave the management of the purchases, and the disposal of the grain, in the hands of any four gentlemen at Lucknow, and conduct the whole transaction in the most open and public manner.

Excuse my again addressing you on the necessity of adopting timely and effectual measures for the supply of the troops in the field; the difficulties they now labour under are evident, and hereafter I much doubt if it will be possible to procure, even by compulsion, the necessary quantities of grain. I am convinced, that little or no assistance can be expected from the officers of the Vizier's government; many of them receive a considerable proportion of the revenue in kind, and they will not fail to take every advantage of the times, to make an enormous and unjustifiable profit. How to counteract abuses which are founded on systematical errors, is not an easy task, for from the uncontrolled authority possessed by every Aumil, and Hyder Beg Cawn's obstinacy in opposing every measure of reform, the decrease of revenue, and general misery are daily accelerated. The total want of police creates personal insecurity; each Zemindar of a village exercises a tyranny; is the revenger of his own wrongs; and the lives of the inhabitants are sacrificed without enquiry, and even the forms of justice are superseded. A recent instance occurred, for an explanation of which I beg to refer you to the inclosed copy (No. 2) of letters from Captain Wedderburne and Major Nicol. For the daring robbery and murders* committed not fifty yards from my own guard, I have hitherto been unable to obtain justice, though part of the property stolen was seized, and the offenders traced to Miliabad, a district under Ahmed Beg, a dependant and an immediate protegé of the

* *Vide Resident's address to the honourable Board, dated the 28th May 1783.*

acting

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acting minister, Hyder Beg Cawn. His Highness had, but the week before the outrage happened, compelled the Cutwals of Lucknow to enter into allegations to make restitution for losses sustained within their respective jurisdictions. I applied for justice in the form prescribed, and likewise insisted on one of the Cutwals, Muckoo Cawn, a man notorious for his collusion with the thieves, being compelled to exert his endeavours in apprehending them. My applications were treated with contempt. Muckoo Cawn, shortly after, received distinguishing marks of the Vizier's confidence and favour, by being promoted to the office of superintendant of the police of Lucknow, and restitution has been promised and exacted. I have kept a register of one hundred and twenty robberies and murders perpetrated in Lucknow and its suburbs, during the last six months, and it is a certain and incontrovertible fact, that not a single offender has been brought to justice.

My motive, Gentlemen, in making this representation, is to present to your view a correct, though cruel picture, of the situation of these provinces, and of the tumults and bloodshed which are to be expected during the approaching calamity. All order and regularity have long since been banished, and we are not informed at Lucknow of the numberless outrages committed in the interior parts of the country; at least I should judge so from my correspondence with the Aumils, and other natives, which contain an uninterrupted narrative of seditions and tumults, and earnest applications for military aid, to awe or expel refractory Zemindars.

The Vizier has issued general orders to his Aumils for prohibiting the exportation and monopoly of grain, and directing a reasonable assize to be fixed; but from the causes I have stated, and the total want of subordination in every branch of the government, there is but too much reason to apprehend, they will avail little in averting the impending calamity.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
24th Sept. 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

P. S. Having applied to Almass Ally Cawn for an order to his Naibs to supply the troops under Colonel Cumming's command with five hundred maunds of grain a day, I have the pleasure to inform you, that he has complied. His Highness has also directed, in case of the murders and robbery perpetrated in the Purgunnah of Sindicla, that restitution should be made to the surviving sufferers or the families of the deceased, that a fine be levied

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levied upon the Purgunnah, and the offenders be apprehended, if possible, and brought to condign punishment.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
25th Sept. 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated 4th September 1783.

I have to inform you, that Captain Grueber marches to-morrow morning for Berelli with his battalion, to relieve the 4 companies of the 21st regiment now at that station.

I am sorry to be under the necessity of addressing you again with a complaint against the people in a district belonging to the Aumil of Rohilcund. I have just received information of the inhabitants of Paherpore having stopped the boats belonging to the gentlemen of the Barelly detachment. It is likely, that before this time they have plundered the baggage they contained; however, that no endeavour to save them might be wanting on my part, I have ordered Captain Grueber to march that way with his battalion, and to effect their immediate release. But this is not a single instance of the audacious behaviour of these people; every day produces some complaint of the same nature. I am continually writing to the Phousdar of Jellalabad, and other places, without producing any good effect; and as the scarcity of grain in the country increases, the difficulty of bringing provisions to camp becomes still greater. The troops already begin to suffer distress; and the evil demands a speedy remedy. I have therefore to request that you will, as soon as possible, represent these circumstances to his Excellency the Vizier, and recommended to him to use such means as will be most certain of procuring redress. I do not believe that Perwannahs, or any writings, will produce the required effect. It is necessary his Excellency should employ some military force to ensure obedience to his orders, and to punish those insurgents, either by his own troops, or to permit me to employ those of the Company on that service.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, 5th September 1783.

I wrote you yesterday respecting the difficulty we were under in procuring provisions for the camp. I am now unwillingly obliged to address you again on the same subject.

I am

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I am this moment informed of the Cutwal of Illalabad having ſtopped 200 bullocks loaded with grain; at the ſame time it is repreſented to me, that there is not a grain of wheat in our Bazar. This being the caſe, I am reduced to the neceſſity of ſending a party of Sepoys to releaſe the bullocks above mentioned. It is with great reluctance I have adopted this meaſure, without the expreſs command or approbation of his Excellency. But circumſtances are ſuch as will not admit of a moment's delay; I muſt again moſt earneſtly entreat you to repreſent this to the Vizier without any delay, and to inform him alſo that we are in a manner beſieged by the officers of government. Our ſupplies are ſtopped on every ſide, and our diſtreſſes are riſen to ſuch an height, as muſt compel me to ſend an armed force to the ſeveral parts of the country whence the ſupplies are uſually brought; and I muſt take the reſponſibility on myſelf, and ſtate the circumſtances at full length to the honourable Board, ſhould the Vizier diſapprove of my conduct: I truſt, however, you will ſee this matter in its true light, and render this unneceſſary. The Vizier's Cutwal has juſt now repreſented to me, that if the grain now ſtopped on the roads is not releaſed, he ſhall be obliged to leave camp, as he is in danger from the reſentment of the troops.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Briſtow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, 8th September 1783.

I encloſe you the copy of an order iſſued by his Highneſs to Mahomed Cazim, Rajah Surat Sing, Jaoo Loll, and Mahomed Beg. I beg the favour of your informing me to whoſe juriſdiction the places you ſpecify (Illalabad, Paherpore) belong. I hope the party you have detached to the former, and the orders you gave Captain Grueber concerning the latter, will have the deſired effect; and I can only ſay, that if you ſhould have ſucceeded in apprehending any of the offenders, I will uſe my utmoſt endeavours with his Highneſs that they may receive exemplary and ſevere puniſhment.

Tranſlation of an Order from his Highneſs the Nabob Vizier to Meha Raja Surat Sing, Superintendant of Barelly, &c. Mirza Mahommed Cazem, Aumil of Jellalpore, Mirza Mahommed Beg, Sizowal of Firockabad, and Raja Jaoo Loll, Aumil of Sandy Pawlly, dated the 8th of Showall 1197.

The ſupplies of grain for the troops under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming having been im-

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peded, I direct that you use every means to assist in furnishing them; and should any Zemindars, or others, detain or intercept the supplies, and military aid be required, you will make your representation to Colonel Cumming, who will grant you assistance.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, 8th September 1783.

The alarming prospect of a famine, from the failure of the periodical rains until this advanced season of the year, obliged me to request you will transmit your opinion to the Governor-general and Council, on the most eligible mode of furnishing the quantity of grain which shall be required for the subsistence of the troops under your command, during the period so dreadful a calamity may be likely to last. I have referred the honourable Board to you for particular information on this head.

A letter to the same purport with the foregoing written to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, 8th September 1783.

The alarming prospect of a famine, from the failure of the periodical rains until this advanced season of the year, obliges me to request you will transmit your opinion to me on the most eligible mode of furnishing the quantity of grain which shall be required for the subsistence of the troops under your command, during the period so dreadful a calamity may be likely to last.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson to Mr. Bristow, 11th September 1783.

I have the honour to inform you that the four companies of Sepoys which were attached to my command, have this day been relieved by a battalion from Futty Ghur, under the command of Captain Grueber, which officer is at present next in command to me.

The failure of the Autumnal rains threatens this country with the greatest calamity, the crops on the ground for want of water; and as it is with much concern I must observe, that every where presents us with the prospect of an approaching famine. By my efforts, grain still continues to be sold here at a moderate rate; we have wheat at 17 seer for a rupee, and pulse and other grain cheap in proportion. I have requested of Raja Surat

Sing

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Sing to exert his authority in preventing the monopoly of the grain, as it must be productive of very fatal consequences to the poor.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson to Mr. Bristow, September the 12th 1783.

By this Dauk I have the honour to receive your letter of the 8th instant: conformable to your request I shall transmit to you in a few days an exact estimate of the daily consumption of provisions in my camp, with my opinion regarding the steps which appears necessary to be taken to prevent the troops under my command from suffering want, should this country be visited by the calamity which the failure of the periodical rains threatens it with.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, 17th September 1783.

Agreeably to your desire, I have made enquiry into the monthly consumption of grain by the detachment under my command, which is as follows:

	Mons per Month.	Mons per Month.
Wheat - -	7,350	88,200
Dal - -	1,500	18,000
Barley - -	5,250	63,000
Rice - -	750	9,000
Bedgere and Jewer	1,500	18,000
Gram - -	2,775	33,300
	19,125	229,500

In this estimate no allowance is made for contractor's cattle, it being supposed that his agents will provide for them.

Out of the 229,500 mons it is reasonable to suppose that one third may be procured in the country, the remaining two-thirds it would, in my opinion, be adviseable to purchase at the chiefest and most convenient markets either in the Vizier's dominions, or in the province of Behar, and to form a magazine.

The most eligible place for the magazine would be the Fort at Futty Ghur, because in case the troops march, a small force would suffice for its protection. Should a famine take place, as we have reason to apprehend, the country people would rise in arms, and seize provisions

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wherever they could be found. There will be some difficulty in bringing the grain to Futty Ghur, both by water and land, on account of the insurrection of the inhabitants of the places through or near which the grain may happen to pass.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. James Morgan to Mr. Bristow, 22d September 1783.

Being given to understand by the Deputy Cutwal, that 16 boats laden with different sorts of grain, belonging to the merchants of this Bazar, have been forced to go back from Allumchund to Illahabad, by Ishmael Beg's son, and will not be permitted to come up here, I have to request that you will be so good as to send an order down for their being released: at this time there is not in the Bazar here scarcely sufficient grain to supply the troops for two days, and they have, I am concerned to hear it, began to complain about the scarcity already. Therefore, if you have no objection, I will immediately write to Captain Dennis to desire him to take care that no boats of grain coming up for this camp shall be in future stopped there, when passing on their way here; and as most of our grain supplies have been usually drawn from the districts about Illahabad, I request that the merchants of this Bazar may be allowed to purchase it there, as well as other people, for I understand they are prevented; and I find that Colonel Sir John Cumming has stationed Sepoys to prevent any from being brought down here from the Upper districts, which circumstances will reduce me to the necessity of sending out guards to assist the Cutwal's people in getting the necessary supplies for the troops here, unless the country people are ordered to sell their grain to our merchants, and will do so readily. For I cannot think of suffering the troops under my command to feel any distresses or difficulties from want of grain, when I know there is abundance deposited at no great distance from my camp, and the country people are now hoarding up their grain, and burying it, with a seeming intention to take advantage of the time, and to create a scarcity that I am afraid cannot be as yet general, and will not be so in all probability; and it would be strange were it suffered to be felt partially, and especially by our troops: to prevent which, if other effectual measures are not taken, I can do no otherwise than make use of Sepoys. However, should I be necessitated to take that step, the greatest care shall be taken that the owners receive the full and proper price for their corn, and that no more shall be brought here than will be absolutely necessary for the

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the consumption of the troops and camp followers, and no person shall be suffered to collect grain here, in order to carry it to other places to be sold.

I beg leave to repeat my request, that Seway Sing may be permitted to return here as soon as possible, as the people he has left in charge of the Bazar affairs here, seem unable to keep them from confusion.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, September 23d 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 22d instant, and have, in consequence, requested Ishmael Beg, who is now here, to send an order to his son immediately to release the 16 boats laden with grain belonging to the merchants of your Bazar, which he had detained.

With respect to your writing to Captain Dennis to desire him to take care that no boats of grain coming to your camp should in future be stopped, I can have no objection to your doing it.

I shall dispatch Seway Sing to you to-morrow.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, September 24th 1783.

I have given this letter to Sewayje Sing, and in reply to the detaching Sepoys to protect the supplies of your camp, as proposed in your letter of the 22d instant, it appears to me a measure of necessity in the present state of affairs, and as such I shall recommend it to his Highness for his sanction; to-morrow I will address you more fully on this subject, as well as on Sewayee Sing's difference with Sectul Persaud.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, 21st September 1783.

The troops being now almost four months in arrears, I beg leave to put you in mind how much they are distressed by want of money and the dearness of provisions; they would not feel the former so severely, were it not accompanied with the latter. I am sensible the troops within the provinces are more in arrears than those which are here; but they feel it less, because grain is two-thirds cheaper there than it than it is here. For this reason I should be extremely happy if you could furnish us with two months pay. I beg leave also to inform you, that it is with the greatest difficulty we procure grain for our daily consumption; and I am not a little apprehensive, that unless great care and precaution be taken we

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may be, for a time, totally without any. I have been informed that there are 200,000 mons of grain treasured up at Kanooge; I wish, therefore, you would procure an order on Elmass Naib to supply us with 500 mons a day. The Benjaras should pay the full price it is sold for in the country round Kanonge: and to prevent other people from purchasing under fictitious names, I would give Zewannas, or certificates, to Camp Benjares, who should deliver in our Bazar the quantity they received at Kanonge. True Copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident
at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Charles Wedderburn, commanding the 31st regiment of Sepoys, to Mr. John Bristow, September 14th 1783.

Major Nicol having left this place the 13th, for Lucknow, and left me in charge of his regiment to attend your orders.

I beg leave to inform you, Sir, that a number of Sepoys, discharged from the regiment, were returning to their homes, that one of them came in here this evening, and declares that he, and about 25 others, were surrounded by a body of armed men (he thinks one hundred and fifty) in the Purgunnah of Sandecla, and Zemindary of Bowanny Sing, Rajepoot; that after robbing the Sepoys, who were twenty-five in number, of their cloaths and three months arrears of pay each of them had, they murdered one of the number, and the others endeavouring to save themselves by flight were pursued, and ten more of them killed.

Having referred the matter to Solyman Beg, the Phousdar's Naib here, he has written to the Naib at Mutcheretta (Cuseal Chund) to make full enquiry into the matter. Sendecla not being in the Khyrabad collection, I beg to be favoured with your orders, as I apprehend offenders so atrocious ought to meet with the most exemplary punishment.

Copy of a Letter from Major James Nicol to Mr. Bristow. 22d September 1783.

Since the account you have had of Captain Wedderburn, of the atrocious action committed against the Sepoys who were discharged from the regiment in the Purgunnah of Sandecla, five of them, who escaped from being massacred, have come to me, and requested I would represent

represent the matter to you, so that they may have redress and restitution made them of the property they have been robbed of.

I have particularly examined into the matter; and they give the following account of it:

That on the 15th instant, on their way to their homes, they passed through the village Alta, in the above-mentioned Purgunnah, about nine in the morning, twenty-five in number, and that they halted at a well a short distance from the village to drink water. As they proceeded on their journey a few hundred yards from thence, they saw a number of armed men collecting on each side of the road, on which they halted. That Bowanny Syng, the Zemindar of Alta, who headed them, called out, they were deserters from the regiment, and thieves; they must therefore return to his village until they gave an account of themselves. The Sepoys assured him they were neither the one nor the other, but Sepoys who had been discharged the service, and had their discharges with them, with my signature to it. This did not satisfy Bowanny Sing—he insisted upon their going back to the village (as he pretended he could not allow them to proceed) as he had an order from Durgan Sing, the Talluckdar, not to permit them until they had obtained an order from the Phousdar; on which they returned to the village. The Zemindar, Bowanny Sing, then told them, that they must put their coats, money, and effects in one place, and when the matter was enquired into, they should have them again. They accordingly submitted.

One of the last three Sepoys who put down their things, asked the Zemindar, if he meant to take their effects from them by this procedure? Or if his intention was really to make an enquiry? and assured him, they were neither deserters nor thieves. When his people replied, Don't you see we are going to take your things—you Byan Choot? The Sepoy desired him not to give him abuse; that he was a Raja Poot as well as themselves: on which Bowanny Sing ordered his people to cut him down. The two Sepoys by him drew their swords to defend themselves, after the other man was killed, but were overpowered and murdered. The rest of the Sepoys, having no arms, ran off, but were pursued, and three more killed, one of their servants, and six wounded, who with difficulty got into a village half a coss from Alta, where they left them. The Sepoys who have given me the above account, inform me that one Nundee, a merchant of Sandecla, was witness to the whole transaction.

I shall not trouble you, Sir, with any reflections of mine on an action which disgraces the very name of government,

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ment, as the evil consequences which will ensue, was such an enormous crime to pass unpunished, will naturally arise in your mind; and I have no doubt but the surviving Sepoys will obtain ample satisfaction from your justice, and the aggressors punished according to their deserts.

True copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE, Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter I have received from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, on the subject of supplies for the troops stationed in the province of Rohilcund.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, 27th Sept. 1783.

JOHN BRISTOW, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit you an estimate of the quantity of grain requisite for a subsistence of the troops under my command for six months, in which I have specified the daily and monthly consumption of each particular kind of grain and pulse. As I have in my calculation of the expence attended to the œconomy the exigency of the times require, I have allowed maintenance for no greater number of bearahs, servants, and camp followers, than what are necessary for the indispensable services of camp. Since the calamity with which this country is threatened renders it absolutely necessary that the subsistence of the troops should be secured from a certain fund, a magazine ought to be established, from which every man is to be supplied with his daily ratia or allowance. This repository, as it is of the utmost consequence to the troops, should, to prevent fraudulent practices, remain under the controul and sole charge of the commanding officer. But the means necessary to be pursued in drawing so large a supply as will be requisite for deposit from a country which, like this, already suffers from a scarcity, in the manner that will prove the least grievance to its inhabitants, I presume to say, is an object of the most serious consideration to government, since the welfare and existence of thousands are concerned therein. There is, in my opinion, but two ways of procuring supplies: the first, by an order from his Excellency the Vizier to the Aumils of their several districts, to furnish the quantity requisite,

requisite, in such proportion as can be collected from the inhabitants, without leaving them destitute of subsistence; the second, by contract. The evil the country is likely to experience from the former is, that the Vizier's officers, who are charged with furnishing the supplies, may, perhaps, under the sanction of so extensive a latitude, indiscriminately lay violent hands on whatever grain may be found in the district, and seize ten times the quantity required to be provided, and by that means bring destruction on the heads of thousands (without mentioning the loss of revenue to government) by the deaths and emigration of the inhabitants, who will naturally seek those places where their wants may be relieved.

In the second instance, should government approve of contracting, such an equitable price should be fixed on the grain as the pay of the Sepoys will afford.

I am, &c.

Camp, near Barrelly, Sept. 23d 1783.

(Signed) CHRISTIAN KNUDSON,
Lt. Col. Com. the Det. at Barrelly.

A true copy.
(Signed) John Bristow,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Estimate

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Eſtimate of the Daily conſumption of Grain and Proviſions of the Detachment under the Command of Lieut. Col. Knudſon.

Camp near Barrelly, September 20th, 1783.

	Wheat Flour.	Rice.	Gra.	Dahl.	Total.
To the military expences for the European officers, artillery, and ſepoys - -	91	46	53	31	221
For the beniahs, ſervants, and neceſſary camp followers -	57	26	11	18	112
Total daily expence -	148	72	64	49	333
Total expence for one month -					9,990
Grand total for ſix months -					59,940

(Signed) CHRIST. KNUDSON,
Lieut. Col. commanding at Barrelly.

A true Copy.
John Briſtow,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I had the honour to addreſs you on the 24th inſtant, with information of the diſtreſs the troops ſuffered from the ſcarcity. I now tranſmit copies of further letters that have paſſed between Col. Cumming and me on this ſubject.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, 28th Sept. 1783.
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Briſtow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, 25th September 1783.

I have received your letter of the 21ſt inſtant, and, in compliance with your requeſt, tranſmit an order from Almaſs Ally Cawn to his Naibs at Kanooge, and other places, directing them to furniſh the quantity of five hundred maunds of grain a day for the ſupply of the troops under your command. Almaſs Ally Cawn has been particularly ſolicitous, that I would beg of you to ſuffer an agent on his behalf to accompany the people you may depute on this buſineſs, in order to prevent diſturbances and interruption in the execution of it.

Tranſ-

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Translation of an order from Almass Ally Cawn to his Naibs; dated 26th of Showal 1197, or 25th September 1783.

A responsible agent, on the part of Colonel Cumming, will be deputed to purchase grain in the districts of Kanooge, &c.; as the quantity of five hundred maunds is the daily consumption in camp, I therefore write you to supply your respective proportions of the said quantity, the same being fairly paid for, and, collecting the grain required, cause it to be delivered to the Colonel's agent. Do not on any account neglect this business; and know this to be a strict injunction.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, 26th September 1783.

I am extremely sorry to trouble you so often on the same subject, but necessity must plead my cause. We are at present in the greatest distress for provisions, and you know how little power I have over the Aumils to oblige them to supply us.

Apprehensive as I am for the consequence, should the troops be for any considerable time without provisions, I must earnestly request your attention to this representation.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, 28th Sept. 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 26th instant. On the 25th I transmitted you an order from Almass Ally Cawn to his Naibs, directing them to furnish the quantity of grain you required, being five hundred maunds a day. His Highness's other Aumils have also been repeatedly directed to render you every assistance in their power; but it is too late to obtain the Vizier's commands to dispatch them by this night's dauk; and to-morrow I will advise him to issue the most positive injunctions, and threaten them with severe punishment, if they neglect your applications. Except in the case of Almass, you have not pointed out the particular quantity you would require from any one district, or I would cause it to be inserted in the orders to the different Aumils.

I am to observe, that all I can do in this business, is to convey his Highness's commands; it will rest with you to enforce them, and act according to the emergency.

Mr.

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Mr. Melvill has drawn for eighty thousand rupees; which I understand will enable him to issue a month's pay to the troops. The treasury is so very low at the present period that the collections are at a stand; but I shall certainly make an exertion to furnish the paymaster general immediately with a further supply, sufficient for your wants.

True Copies.
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I take the liberty to forward the copies of my correspondence with Col. Cumming.

Lucknow, I am, &c.
30th Sept. 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, 27th Sept. 1783.

I am just favoured with your letter of the 25th instant, inclosing an order on Almass Ally Cawn's Aumils. I entirely approve of his having an agent to accompany the people sent for grain. All I request is, that grain be supplied for the consumption of the troops upon the Benjaries, paying the current price of that neighbourhood.

As it is probable the inhabitants of the villages through which the grain passes may interrupt its access to camp, I shall send parties of sepoys to protect it, but with positive orders to interfere no further than to escort hither what is received from the Aumils and their dependants.

The letter I sent you respecting the mode of securing supplies for the season, I hope you have transmitted to the Board. I have not addressed them on the subject, as I thought I could not with propriety intrude on them an unasked opinion.

Mr. Bristow in Reply, dated 29th Sept. 1783.

I have received your letter of the 27th instant; and now do myself the pleasure to enclose a copy of his Highness's orders to his Aumils issued this day. I have likewise written to them, recommending strict attention to what the Vizier has directed, and explained the consequences of their disobedience.

I transmitted a copy of your letter on the subject of supplies to the honourable Board on the 24th instant.

Trans-

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Translation of a Shokah from his Highness the Vizier to Meha Rajah Soorat Sing, Merza Mahomed Casem, Roy Bussunt Roy, and Mahomed Beg, the 1st Zukaade 1197.

Orders were before issued to you concerning supplies of grain for the troops under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming; you are now also written to, that you may not, under any pretence, neglect this business, and in case you should, you will be exposed to our displeasure; and the Colonel has our direction to proceed against you.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow; dated 28th Sept. 1783.

I addressed you on the 21st instant, stating the distresses of the troops by want of pay. They are now four months in arrears, which, though longer than they have ever been since your Residentship, would not be so very distressing, were it not accompanied by the enormous price and alarming scarcity of provisions; my principal motive for repeating my solicitations is the apprehension of not being able to march, should the exigency of the service require it. Situated as we are on the frontier, it's both my inclination and duty to keep the detachment always ready for immediate service.

I am sensible that the troops at Khanpoor are as much in arrears, and those within the provinces even more so, than this detachment; yet, as there is a difference of thirty per cent. on the price of provisions between the rate at Futty Ghur and the former, and a much greater difference when compared to the latter, it is impossible for them to feel the want of money so severely as it is felt here: for these reasons, I am thus urgent in my request. You, however, are the best judge of what probability there is of our being called on to march; should such an event take place before we receive two months pay, it would not be in our power to carry two days provisions in the field.

True Copies.
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th October 1783.

Mr. Stables having delivered his opinion on the Governor-general's minute, accompanying Major Palmer's letter,

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letter, entered on the laſt day's proceedings, it is now recorded.

Mr. Stables. 8th October 1783.

I with pleaſure agree with the Governor-general in the firſt part of this minute; and farther, that Mr. Cowper may be called upon to ſend to the Board the correſpondence which paſſed between them and Major Palmer, the latter gentleman having alluded to it in his letter to the Governor-general.

Mr. M'Pherſon delivered in the following minute on the ſame ſubject.

Mr. Macpherſon.

I agree that a letter, in the terms the Governor-general propoſes, be written by the Secretary of the Board to Lieut. Colonel Martin; but as it appears, from Major Palmer's public letters, of the 16th and 20th September, to the Governor-general, that Colonel Martin has been employed in a negociation with Hyder Beg Cawn, for Mr. Briſtow, which Mr. Briſtow is ſaid to have diſavowed, it would be proper to give Mr. Briſtow an opportunity of replying to Colonel Martin's evidence, and to afford him a ſimilar freedom to juſtify himſelf, as is granted to Hyder Beg Cawn to prove his accuſations. This will follow, by directing Colonel Martin to ſupply Mr. Briſtow with a copy of his evidence.

I have heard of the private correſpondence between Major Palmer and Mr. Cowper. As a private correſpondence, no perſon in poſſeſſion of it can properly bring it into public view, without the conſent of the parties. But as Major Palmer ſuppoſes that an inference, which is unjuſt, is drawn from this correſpondence, and that it is attempted to be proved by it, "that his continuance at "Lucknow, after his return from Rampoor, was for "the purpoſes of encouraging the miniſter to oppoſe the "meaſures of Mr. Briſtow, and to excite complaints "againſt his conduct,"——ſo Major Palmer ſhould, I think, for his own ſatisfaction, publiſh thoſe parts of the correſpondence which are ſaid to be perverted to ſuch an inference.

In conſequence of the foregoing minute, the following was delivered in by the Governor-general.

Governor General. Ghyretty, 11th Oct. 1783.

I deſire that my inſtructions to Mr. Briſtow, and the letter which I delivered with them to him for Hyder Beg Khawn, my minute of the 6th, with Major Palmer's two letters, and that of Hyder Beg Khawn accompanying it, the

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the minutes of Meſſrs. Macpherſon and Stables, this minute, and ſuch others as ſhall follow on the ſubject of Mr. Briſtow's conduct, may be ſent numbers in the packet now under diſpatch. I muſt here alſo formally move, what I conclude to have been underſtood, that all the minutes and letters which have paſſed upon this ſubject ſince the 20th of April, may be ſent in a collective view by this packet to the Court of Directors: to render them complete, I ſhall add an extract of a letter from Major Davy to Major Palmer, written by my direction, and an extract of an addreſs from Rajah Govind Ram to the Nabob Vizier, both intended to obviate or efface any ill impreſſions which the Nabob Vizier might have received to the prejudice of Mr. Briſtow, and to beſpeak his favourable reception of Mr. Briſtow, on his recent appointment. Theſe letters are alluded to in the cloſe of my minute of the 29th ultimo, and in that which I delivered at the Board on the 7th March laſt, on the occaſion of Mr. Fowke's appointment to the reſidency of Benares, and will be entered on the proceedings as vouchers of the declarations contained in both.

I muſt take the freedom to remark, on Mr. Macpherſon's laſt minute, that his refuſal to produce the correſpondence between Major Palmer and Mr. Cowper appears to me to be repugnant to the principle implied in the reaſon aſſigned for it; I would willingly avoid ſaying or ſuggeſting what may give perſonal offence, but I feel myſelf at a loſs whether to underſtand Mr. Macpherſon's words as a denial or admiſſion of his being in poſſeſſion of that correſpondence. To ſay that he has heard of ſuch a correſpondence, would in common conſtruction imply that he had it not, eſpecially when this ſentence is applied to my requeſt that he ſhould produce it, if he had it; but I rather apprehend, from the context, that it was meant as a tacit acknowledgment that he had poſſeſſion of it; for otherwiſe there would have been no occaſion to aſſign a reaſon for not producing it. The reaſon is, that, "as a private correſpondence, no perſon in poſſeſſion of "it can properly bring it into public view, without the "conſent of the parties." This principle will operate with equal force againſt the private communication of it, if it is judged to contain any matter tending to reflect on the character of the parties; and eſpecially if it was communicated by either of the parties themſelves, for the purpoſe of criminating the other, which I take upon me to affirm was the caſe.

To refer me back to Major Palmer or Mr. Cowper for a copy of the correſpondence, is in effect to refuſe it; ſince their reply cannot arrive till long after the preſent diſpatch—

and

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and I do therefore protest against it, as a denial of common justice.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Acting Sec. to the Secret Department.

Information communicated to the Nuvvaub Vizier, by Rajah Gobind Rawn, in his Erzie, dated 17th Ramzam A. H. 1196, or 27th August 1782, by Directions from the Governor-general.

This day the Governor-general sent for me in private; after recapitulating the various informations he had received respecting the anarchy and confusion said to reign throughout your Highness's country, and complaints that neither your Highness, or Hyder Beg Khawn, or Mr. Middleton, or Mr. Johnson, ever wrote to him on the state of your affairs, or if he ever received a letter from the presence, it always contained assertions contrary to the above informations, the Governor-general proceeded as follows: That it was his intention to have appointed Mr. David Anderson to attend upon your Highness; but that he was still with Sindeah, and there was no prospect of his speedy return from his camp; therefore it was now his wish to appoint Mr. John Bristow, who was well experienced in business, to Lucknow: That when Mr. Bristow formerly held the office of Resident there, he was not appointed by him; and that, notwithstanding he had not shewn any instances of disobedience, yet he deemed it necessary to recall him, because he had been patronized and appointed by gentlemen who were in opposition to him, and had counteracted and thwarted all his measures; that this had been his reason for recalling Mr. Bristow: That since Mr. Francis's return to Europe, and the arrival of information there of the death of the other gentlemen, the King and the Company had declared their approbation of his (the Governor-general's) conduct, and had conferred upon him the most ample powers; that they had sent our Mr. Macpherson, who was his old and particular friend; and that Mr. Stables, who was on his way here as a member of the Supreme Council, was also his particular friend: That Mr. Wheler had received letters from Europe, informing him, that the members of the Council were enjoined, all of them, to co-operate and act in conjunction with him, in every measure which should be agreeable to him; and that there was no one in Council now, who was not entirely united with him; and consequently, that his authority was perfect and complete: That Mr. Bristow, as was known to me, had returned

returned to Europe; but that, during his ſtay there, he had never ſaid any thing diſreſpectful of him, or endeavoured to injure him; on the contrary, he had received accounts from Europe, that Mr. Briſtow had ſpoken much in his praiſe; ſo that Mr. Briſtow's friends there had become his friends: That Mr. Briſtow had lately been introduced to him by Mr. Macpherſon, had explained his paſt conduct perfectly to his ſatisfaction, and had requeſted from him the appointment to Lucknow; and had declared, in the event of his obtaining the appointment, that he ſhould ſhew every mark of attention and obedience to the pleaſure of your Highneſs, and his (the Governor's) ſaying, that your Highneſs was well pleaſed with him, and that he knew what you had formerly written had been written at the inſtigation of Mr. Middleton: That in conſequence of the foregoing, he (the Governor) had determined to appoint Mr. Briſtow to Lucknow; but had poſtponed his appointment to that office for the following reaſons; viz. People at Lucknow might think that Mr. Briſtow had obtained his appointment in conſequence of orders from Europe, and contrary to his (the Governor's) inclinations; but as the contrary was the caſe, and as he now conſidered Mr. Briſtow as the object of his own particular patronage, therefore he directed me to forward Mr. Briſtow's Erzee to the preſence, and to repreſent, that it was his (the Governor's) wiſh, that your Highneſs, on the receipt thereof, would write a letter to him, and as from yourſelf, requeſt of him, that Mr. Briſtow may be appointed to Lucknow, and that you would write an anſwer to his Erzee, expreſſive of your perfect ſatisfaction on the ſubject. The Governor concluded with injunctions, that until the arrival of your Highneſs's letter, requeſting the appointment of Mr. Briſtow, and your anſwer to this Erzee, that I ſhould keep the particulars of this converſation a profound ſecret; for that the communication of it to any perſon whatever would not only cauſe his diſpleaſure, but would throw affairs at Lucknow into great confuſion. The preceding is the ſubſtance of the Governor's directions to me. He afterwards went to Mr. Macpherſon's, and I attended him. Mr. Briſtow was there. The Governor took Mr. Briſtow's Erzee from his hand, and delivered it into mine, and thence proceeded to Council. Mr. Briſtow's Erzee, and the foregoing particulars, I tranſmit and communicate by the Governor's directions; and I requeſt that I may be favoured with the anſwer to this Erzee and the letter to the Governor as ſoon as poſſible,

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ſible, as his injunctions to me on the ſubject were very particular.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Acting Sec. to the Secret Department.

Extracts of Directions, written by Major Davy to Major Palmer, by the Order of the Honourable the Governor General, October 6th, 1782.

You are to inform the Nabob and his miniſters, that Mr. Briſtow is not the choice of the gentlemen of the Council, but the Governor's own; and that his own and ſole choice has now been formed on the moſt perfect knowledge of his integrity, honour, and abilities.

That times, and men, and things are changed; that the preſent members of the Board are every way different men from their predeceſſors, are firmly attached to and united with the Governor, and determined to ſupport all his meaſures; that Mr. Middleton was the favoured object of the Governor's private friendſhip and particular affection; that he had treated and confided in him as his child, and appointed him to the Court of Owde as to the firſt office in his gift; on the contrary, he had formerly cauſe to conſider Mr. Briſtow as his enemy, from the nature of his connections: That Mr. Middleton has deceived him, has diſcredited the confidence he placed in his attachment, abilities, and gratitude, and diſappointed him in all his expectations: That Mr. Briſtow's former connections are diſſolved, and that his conduct now appears, on the fulleſt conviction, to have been juſt, honourable, and conſiſtent; that the Governor relies implicitly on his integrity and attachment; and that he is in poſſeſſion of his entire confidence, affection, and fulleſt ſupport.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Acting Sec. to the Secret Department.

To Hyder Beg Khawn.

October 20th 1782.

When Mr. Briſtow lately addreſſed the Nuvvaub upon the ſubject of my intention to appoint him to the office of Reſident at the Court of the Nuvvaub Vizier, on the part of this government, provided that the Nuvvaub himſelf had no perſonal objection to him, I directed Raja Gobind Raum to receive and forward the letter, and to inform the Nuvvaub that the appointment of Mr. Briſtow ſhould depend upon his pleaſure, which in all things I have

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have made it my ſtudy to conſult and promote; but leſt the Nuvvaub, from the recollection of paſt tranſactions, might miſconſtrue my recommendation an oſtenſible profeſſion, and on that account expreſs reluctance to aſſent to the appointment, I deſired Gobind Raum to explain very particularly to the Nuvvaub, both that I had a very high eſteem for Mr. Briſtow, and an entire confidence in his attachment and integrity, and the reaſons which had produced this alteration in my ſentiments reſpecting that gentleman. At the ſame time I mentioned the defection and treachery of Almas Alli Khawn; the diſordered ſtate to which he had abandoned the province of Doaub, and the other diſtricts of which he had charge; the like ſymptoms apparent in the conduct of the Aumil of Rohailkund; and the general diſobedience and confuſion which prevailed in every part of the Nabob's dominions, of which, though known to all mankind, I had never received any information, either from the Nuvvaub, yourſelf, or Mr. Middleton. In anſwer to his meſſage, Raja Gobind Raum received a Perwannah from the Nuvvaub, containing complaints and reproaches at my interference in his affairs; his unwillingneſs to receive my agent from me, but without any perſonal diſlike to Mr. Briſtow, in whoſe appointment he ſhould acquieſce, if I choſe to make it.

Theſe ſentiments, and theſe expreſſions, are neither conſonant to the benevolence of the Nuvvaub's temper, nor to the friendſhip which I know he poſſeſſes for me, but were dictated for other purpoſes, known to yourſelf only--they are your ſentiments and your expreſſions, and not the Nuvvaub's. But my aſtoniſhment at the other parts of the Perwannah is not to be expreſſed; for it declares, that all which I had ſaid reſpecting Almas Alli Khawn, and the diſordered ſtate of the Nuvvaub's government, to be entirely falſe and without foundation, and the invention of incendiary people; and that the Nuvvaub's dominions enjoyed the moſt perfect tranquillity and peace. Either theſe affirmations were dictated by the Nuvvaub, or written without his knowledge; if they were dictated by the Nuvvaub, they were ſuch as would not admit of a reply from me in an immediate addreſs to himſelf; becauſe I muſt have told him that he was deceived, and kept in utter ignorance of his own affairs, at the ſame time that the whole world, except himſelf, ſaw the condition they were in, and the deſtruction which was hanging over them. If the letter was written in the Nuvvaub's name, but without his knowledge, what muſt have been your opinion of one that could induce you to attempt ſo groſs a deception upon my underſtanding? In

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either case your conduct is without excuse; its object I plainly see—by the authority of the Nuvvaub Vizier you mean your own. When you make the Nuvvaub to complain of the usurpations on that authority, and to assert his right to the uncontrouled exercise of it, the plain interpretation of this is, that you yourself lay claim to the usurpation of his authority, and to the uncontrouled exercise of it. And how has it been exercised? I shall not repeat particulars, having already written to you fully upon them, and the subject is unpleasant; but I must tell you that such is their notoriety, that the report of them is echoed to me from all parts of Hindostan and Deccan, and the most alarming apprehensions expressed by my agents, employed in the remote affairs of this government, lest they should attract the hostilities of other powers, and impede the pacifications which are now, and have been, for some time past, impending.

I write thus plainly to you from two motives:—The first is to shew how thin the veil is by which you attempt to cover this policy; and of course to convince you that I shall receive and construe every similar declaration, however made to me from the Nuvvaub, and every letter written in his name, tending to destroy or lessen the friendship subsisting between us, as your declaration, as your letter. The second is, that as I do not so much ascribe these artifices to you as to the evil counsels and encouragements which you have lately received from other persons, whose names I need not mention, you may see and know on what terms you may expect hereafter to retain that friendship and support which I have hitherto given you. For the rest I refer you to Mr. Bristow, to whom, verbally and in writing, I have communicated every tittle of my sentiments, intentions, and expectations, upon this subject.

A true Copy,
E. HAY,
Acting Secretary to the Secret Department.

Mr. Macpherson.

I agree that a letter, in the terms the Governor-general proposes, be written by the Secretary of the Board to Lieutenant Colonel Martin; but as it appears, from Major Palmer's public letters of the 16th, and 20th September, to the Governor-general, that Colonel Martin has been employed in a negociation with Hyder Beg Cawn for Mr. Bristow, which Mr. Bristow is said to have disavowed, it would be proper to give Mr. Bristow an opportunity of replying to Colonel Martin's evidence, and to afford him a similar freedom to justify himself, as is

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is granted to Hyder Beg Cawn to prove his accusations, this will follow, by directing Colonel Martin to supply Mr. Bristow with a copy of his evidence.

I have heard of the private correspondence between Major Palmer and Mr. Cooper: as a private correspondence, no person in possession of it can properly bring it into public view, without the consent of the parties; but as Major Palmer supposes that an inference which is unjust is drawn from this correspondence, and that it is attempted to be proved by it that his continuance at Lucknow after his return from Rampoor was for the purposes of encouraging the minister to oppose the measures of Mr. Bristow, and to excite complaints against his conduct, so Major Palmer should, I think, for his own satisfaction, publish those parts of the correspondence which are said to be perverted to such an inference.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Acting Sec. to the Secret Department.

Mr. Stables. 8th October 1783.

I with pleasure agree with the Governor-general in the first part of this minute; and further, that Mr. Cowper may be called upon to send to the Board the correspondence which passed between him and Major Palmer, the latter gentleman having alluded to it in his letter to the Governor-general.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Acting Sec. to the Secret Department.

Lieutenant Colonel Martin, at Lucknow.

Sir,

The Honourable the Governor-general and Council having been advised that you have been privy to many of the circumstances which relate to the complaints exhibited to this government by his Excellency the Vizier, and his acting minister Hyder Beg Cawn, against Mr. Bristow; and as Hyder Beg has appealed directly to your testimony for the truth of his representation of them; I require you, in the name of the honourable Board, and by their orders, to transmit to them in writing an exact narrative of all you know concerning the various matters of complaint which have passed between the Nabob Vizier and his Minister Hyder Beg Khawn on one part, and Mr. Bristow on the other. Your narrative must be so solemn a declaration of what is required from you, that you may, if called on, attest the same on oath. The

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Board imagine that you are already acquainted with the ſeveral complaints which have been made againſt Mr. Briſtow: if you are not, you will apply for them to that gentleman, who is directed to ſhew them to you.

I am further directed to inform you of the Board's pleaſure, that you ſupply Mr. Briſtow with a copy of the evidence which you have been ordered to tranſmit to them.

I am, Sir, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
the 13th October 1783. Sub. Sec.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Acting Sec. to the Secret Departm.

Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at Lucknow.

Sir,

The honourable the Governor-general and Council having been adviſed that Lieutenant Colonel Martin has been privy to many of the circumſtances which relate to the complaints exhibited againſt you to this government by his Excellency the Vizier, and his acting miniſter Hyder Beg Khawn; and the latter has appealed directly to Colonel Martin's teſtimony for the truth of his repreſentation of them, Colonel Martin has been required to tranſmit to the Board an exact narrative of all he knows concerning the various matters of ſuch complaints; and I am directed to acquaint you with the Board's order, that you ſhew him copies of all the papers in which they are included, and tranſmited to you from this goverment, ſhould he deſire to ſee them: and as the Board wiſh to give you an opportunity of juſtification, and of replying to Lieutenant Colonel Martin's evidence, ſhould you be pleaſed to do ſo, Lieutenant Colonel Martin has been ordered to furniſh you with a copy of it.

I am, Sir, &c.

Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
the 13th October 1783. Sub. Sec.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Acting Sec. to the Secret Departm.

Extract of the Secret Letter from Bengal; dated the 20th October 1783.

Para. 49. We think it neceſſary to inform you, that the Governor General having received complaints from the Vizier, and his miniſter Hyder Beg Cawn, againſt the conduct of Mr. Briſtow, our reſident at the court of Owde, laid them before us on the 21ſt of April laſt, with a copy

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a copy of his original instructions to Mr. Bristow; which, though known to the members of the Board at the time when they were given, and sanctified by their approbation, had not before been recorded, from the necessity of preserving them in secrecy.

50. These papers being voluminous, were circulated for the consideration of the members of the Board, and on the 19th of May it was resolved to send copies of complaints to Mr. Bristow, and to require his answers to them.

51. Mr. Bristow acknowledged the receipt of our letter, containing these complaints, on the 13th of June; and on the 23d of June excused himself for not being able to reply to them earlier, under the plea of indisposition. His defence, which is dated the 30th of July, and other letters of explanation from him, arrived, and have been considered; but as we differed in our opinions upon the subject of his proceedings, and many minutes have been recorded in consequence, we beg leave to refer you to our consultation at large, under the following dates, and earnestly recommend them to your attentive perusal; for which purpose, and to save you the trouble of further reference, we enclose complete extracts, separate number, by this packet.

Conf. 31st	April 1783.	Vizier's and Hyder Beg's complaints; Governor-general's original instructions to Mr. Bristow.
12th	May	Sundry letters from Mr. Bristow to the Board, and to the Governor-general.
19th	May	Minutes and resolution to call on Mr. Bristow.
22d	Do.	Further letter from Hyder Beg. Minutes.
23d	June	Mr. Bristow's letters, dated
9	July	Do. Do. Do.
24	Do.	Minutes.
28	Do.	Further letter from the Vizier and Hyder Beg. Minutes.
31	Do.	Minutes.
11	August	Mr. Bristow's defence.
4	September	Mr. Wheler's opinion. Mr. Stable's Do. Mr. Macpherson's Do.
29	September	Governor-general's Do.
6	October	Do. — Do.
13	Do.	Minutes.
21	Do.	Do.

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52. These letters will likewise furnish you with Mr. Bristow's reports of the present state of the Vizier's country.

54. The directions which you have been pleased to give, in your commands of the 14th of February last, concerning the Begums at Fyzabad, have also produced different opinions upon them at this Board, which being recorded we must beg leave to refer you to our proceedings, noted in the margin *, for a reply to that part of your letter.

55. The 11th and following paragraphs of our said letter, respecting the Nabob Fyzoola Khaun, cannot be replied to with greater propriety of accuracy than by a reference to the conclusion of ours of the 5th April last, by the Surprize, wherein we informed you of the treaty concluded between the Vizier and that chief, to which we have signed as guarantee, and of the relative connection of their respective governments.

56. In reply to the two last paragraphs of your letter above mentioned, we beg leave to inform you that a minute and proposal are now before us from the Governor-general, for the appointment of an English Resident with the Nabob of Ferruckabad; in compliance with his request, contained in a letter which is also before us, we shall advise you of our determination on this subject by the first opportunity.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and Members of the Supreme Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have received your commands of the 28th ultimo, and now transmit you a list of the Jaghyres resumed since the agreement made by the honourable the Governor-general with his Excellency the Vizier at Chunar, in September 1781, as furnished me by Hyder Beg Cawn. The list I had formerly the honour to forward to your honourable Board was the sum proposed to be allowed to the proprietors in lieu of the income of their Jaghyres, and not the actual amount; my ascertaining these particulars has occasioned the delay in my replying to your orders.

* *Conf.* 28 *Aug: Mr. Wheler's minute. Gov. Genls. ditto.*— 22 *Mr. Stables ditto. Gov. Genl's. ditto.*—13 *Oct. Mr. Macpherson's ditto. Governor Genl's. ditto. Macpherson's ditto.*

I have

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I have only to obſerve, in regard to the ſituation of the Jaghyredars, that very few of them received any part of their allowances, and they are all in diſtreſs.

I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient,
and humble ſervant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.
Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
25th Sept. 1783.

A true copy.
E. Hay,
Acting Sec. to the Secret Departm.

Extract of General Letter from Bengal; dated 23d October 1783.

Para. 146. By the letters which we have received from Lucknow, we find great apprehenſions prevail of an approaching famine in the Nabob's diſtricts. A ſcarcity of grain has already been ſeverely felt in all the Weſtern countries towards Delhi, and from the uncommon drought of the ſeaſon to the northward of Calcutta, the crops upon the ground have been ſcorched, and nearly deſtroyed. This evil has been leſs felt, as it reached to the ſouthward, where the grain is chiefly produced, and the ſeaſon of the periodical rains not being entirely over, we have yet hopes that a fall of water may come in time to prevent the total loſs of the preſent harveſt. To guard againſt the effects of ſcarcity as much as poſſible in the Upper Countries, we have taken off all duties upon the exportation of grain to thoſe parts.

Mr. Macpherſon.

Though I do not remember to have ſeen Major Palmer's inſtructions in their preſent arranged ſtate, I remember perfectly to have ſeen detached minutes or memorandums of his commiſſion to Oude in April or May 1782.

I approved of his being ſent thither; and that Major Davy ſhould accompany him.

The objects of their miſſion were, as I recollect them, to inform this government of the real ſtate of the Vizier's country, an information which was at the time withheld by your official agents; to aſcertain the cauſes of the Vizier's ſeeming diſatisfaction; and to endeavour to induce him to transfer ten lacks of rupees, that he offered to the Governor-general as a preſent, to the Compauy's account, as a donation to them. It was beſides wiſhed, and Major Palmer was ſanguine in his expectations of ſucceeding in the negociation, that Hyder Beg Cawn and Almas Ally Cawn

Cawn might be induced to lend a conſiderable ſum of money as a loan to the Company. The Governor-general likewiſe ſhewed me Major Palmer's letters from Oude, ſoon after his arrival there: I do not recollect their contents, for I was not well at the time. Major Davy returned to Calcutta ſoon afterwards; and the accounts we had from both confirmed me in the repreſentations that prevailed relative to the diſtracted ſtate of the Vizier's country.

A true copy.
E. HAY.
Acting Sec. to the Secret Departm.

Mr. Macpherſon.

I readily agree to all the Governor-general's propoſitions, in his minute of the 11th October.

Every paper that relates to the ſubject of the complaints againſt Mr. Briſtow, and his defence, ſhould be ſent home to the Court of Directors, and placed together before them in a collective view.

I might have expreſſed myſelf more decidedly; but the Governor-general has fully underſtood my meaning in my minute, recorded on the 16th inſtant, in which I obſerved, "*that I had heard of the correſpondence between Major Palmer and Mr. Cowper.*"

I heard of the correſpondence early. Major Palmer was pleaſed to take notice of my name in it, and relative to a point in which he was miſtaken.

The correſpondence was afterwards communicated to me; and it appears from it, that Major Palmer was not unwilling that it ſhould be publicly ſeen, provided it was not ſhewn in partial extracts. Still, as it was called a *private correſpondence*, I did not think it a proper ſubject to be brought forward by me for public diſcuſſion, nor to my remembrance has it been out of my poſſeſſion ſince I received it; nor do I recollect to have ſpoken of it in private converſation to more than three people, who had likewiſe heard of it, from Lucknow.

The Governor-general is of opinion that the correſpondence ſhould not be withheld, if in my poſſeſſion; and declares, a reference for it to Lucknow would be in effect a denial of common juſtice; I lay it, therefore, without further heſitation, before the Board, and they may order it to be part of the preſent diſpatch. I can have no objection.

A true copy.
E. HAY,
Acting Sec. to the Secret Departm.

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Copy of a Letter from Mr. Cowper to Mr. Briſtow.

Major P. having to-day deſired, that the whole of the correſpondence between him and me might always appear together, in order clearly to explain the occaſion in which it originated, I encloſe you ſuch part of it as was omitted in your copy: and P. having further deſired and ſtated to me, that it is not fit that partial extracts of it ſhould be taken or ſhewn (an opinion in which I perfectly agree with him) I am to requeſt, that you will give me your promiſe never to make uſe of it but in its complete ſtate; ſhould you have already communicated it to any perſon, you will of courſe cauſe them to ſee the additions I now ſend you. At the time that, conformably to Major P's deſire, and in juſtice to him, I lay this injunction, you will be ſatisfied I am myſelf too well acquainted with your liberality and candour to think any ſuch formality neceſſary.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Cowper to Major Palmer.

I am told by Mr. Neave, that you expreſſed yourſelf to him yeſterday as if you thought I had neglected you. Such ſuſpicions are unworthy of us both, I ſhall not therefore heſitate to remove them. To whom do you imagine my frequent viſits at Mr. Thomas's were directed? Aſk that gentleman, and he will tell you, that previous to your arrival our intercourſe had been confined (as muſt naturally be the caſe between perfect ſtrangers) to an exchange of one or two formal viſits. He would, no doubt, have been extremely aſtoniſhed to ſee me ſuddenly entering his houſe on all occaſions without ceremony, and ſitting down uninvited at his table, if he had not felt that his conduct was juſtified by the long and intimate friendſhip which had ſubſiſted between you and me, and been convinced that it was to you that all my attentions were directed. I always conſidered you as his gueſt, and but for the explanation I have now received, it would never have entered into my imagination, that to ſee you at his or the other houſe, made any diſtinction in your eyes.

Major Palmer, in Anſwer to Mr. Cowper.

18th May 83.

I am glad that Neave mentioned to you what I peeviſhly hinted of my ſuſpicion that you had forgot or was indifferent to your old friendſhip; for it has procured me an explanation ſo highly ſatisfactory. It did not occur to me to reflect upon the nature and duration of your acquaintance with Thomas, or I ſhould certainly have taken

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taken your frequent visits there to my own account. If I have been sore at your supposed neglect of me, it was because I set a value on your attention. I strove, however, to conceal my uneasiness, by using your house with the utmost freedom. I am not apt to be captious on points like this, and have a good enough opinion of myself to believe, that I am not in danger of being neglected. If I thought that I perceived a coolness in you towards me, I attributed it to motives of a political view—you cannot be ignorant of the part which has been imposed upon me, respecting the public conduct of B. to forward the public representations of the Vizier and his Minister to the Governor, from whom alone the hope for an alteration in matters of interference, which they deem unjust and oppressive, was indispensable on me, when required to do so; and when I considered the transactions of which they complained as contrary to the sentiments, and injurious to the authority and reputation, of my best friend and patron, I am an involuntary actor in this scene. I have never enquired of any person whatever into B.'s proceedings; those which are complained of are public, and which he may, for ought I know, be able to vindicate. I have no interest in the event, and have acted from no other motive than duty and gratitude to my employer and benefactor. I was, however, a little apprehensive, that as you appear to think all B.'s measures just and expedient, you might consider yourself as involved in the enquiry; and, not making allowance for my situation and motives, think I had acted an unfriendly part towards you; and thence I attributed your neglect. I did not intend ever to have opened this subject to you, had not the other led me insensibly into it, though I should have been happy that you had required an explanation. This is intended solely for yourself: B. has never communicated with me on public business, nor have I any desire that he should. I came here by the Governor's express orders, to establish a firm persuasion in the minds of the Vizier and his Minister, of B.'s possessing the Governor's entire confidence and support: I obeyed the command with cheatfulness, and executed it not only with fidelity but with zeal. How far B. has rendered himself worthy of that generous confidence which Mr. H. reposed in him, you know better than I do; all I wish you to believe is, that nothing personal or interested has actuated my conduct: B. knows circumstantially, that I was a warm advocate with the Governor for his appointment to this station, at a time when it could not have been supposed that Mr. H. acted under the influence of another Member of the Administration. Once more, all this to yourself.

I am, &c. (Signed) A. P.

Mr.

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Mr. Cowper, in Anſwer.

If, after the very candid and liberal explanation you favoured me with, uncalled upon, a few days ago, I were in my turn capable of any concealment, I ſhould baſely betray your confidence and friendſhip. I will tell you fairly, then, that I was perfectly aſtoniſhed at the paragraph in your chit, where you ſay, "You cannot be ignorant of the part "which has been impoſed upon me reſpecting the public "conduct of Briſtow to forward, &c.—Till that moment I had always underſtood, and as I recollect the information came from yourſelf, you were detained here entirely by the indiſpoſition of your children; beſides, I could not conceive how I alone ſhould have ſo long continued an utter ſtranger to a circumſtance of ſo extraordinary a nature, which you ſtate to be of ſuch public notoriety. At the ſame time, as I had good reaſon to imagine, that very many individuals were as much in the dark in this particular as myſelf, I was determined to aſcertain how far my opinion was warranted, I ſounded ſeveral, and though I found them generally agreed with reſpect to the intention in which you remained here, "to forward, as you ſay, &c." yet they uniformly profeſſed their entire ignorance of your taking this part, in obedience to or under the authority of a public commiſſion; in the laſt reſort, therefore, and as a more certain way of reſolving the queſtion, I laſt night wrote the following note to Mr. Briſtow.

My dear Briſtow,

Is Palmer now in any oſtenſible character here, either from the Governor General, &c. Co. or from the Governor General ſeparately; and if he is, what is the nature of it? I have a particular reaſon for aſking theſe queſtions.

Your's, affy.

25th May, 1783. (Signed) W. COWPER.

Mr. Briſtow's Anſwer.

My dear Cowper,

Major Palmer is in no private or oſtenſible character, as you will obſerve from the following extract of a private letter from the Governor to me, dated 23d of November, 1782:

"If this is not to be effected, apprize Major Palmer of "it early, that he may leave the place without further de-"lay. It is not fit that he ſhould remain there, either by "his preſence to countenance the ſuppoſition of a double "influence, or to afford an argument of the diminution "of mine, to thoſe who may be diſpoſed, as there are

"many

"many, to represent him as my Secretary, as a man for "whom I have an affection, reduced to a cypher."

Yours,

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

This answer, as it is perfectly irreconcileable to the contents of your letter to me, has served only to augment my perplexity. Relying, as I do, implicitly on your truth and honour, I am, nevertheless, most happy I pursued my inquiries so far, since the result, by being communicated, will afford you the opportunity of reconciling this seeming contradiction, which, but for such explanation, might be liable to be misconstrued by an uncharitable and misjudging world. I do, myself, most religiously believe, "That no- "thing personal or interested has actuated your conduct;" and that you are an involuntary actor in this scene; at the same time my affection for you engages me to conjure you to take effectual means that the truth may be clearly understood by all mankind, particularly as the representations, however you may have been given otherwise to understand, were certainly fabricated by their crafty author, Hyder Beg Cawn, with the utmost secrecy, and were replete, as far as they have since come to our knowledge, with the most flagitious falsehoods that invective malice could supply, whilst the object of this insidious attack was to devote to ruin and disgrace two persons (one of them the friend who now writes to you) whose characters Hyder was well aware would ever in the face of day have bid defiance to the impotent efforts of such an unprincipled and despicable traducer. In aggravation, if any thing can aggravate the enormity of this transaction on the part of the Minister, let it be remembered, that such was his treachery towards Bristow and myself, at the very time he was endeavouring to secure our confidence by the most lavish professions of regard and attachment. By the blessing of God his plots are now upon the eve of being detected and exposed, by a chain of evidence which no sophistry shall be able to elude. As you expressed a wish to that effect, I have hitherto kept the contents of your note a profound secret, though I must confess there is no part of it, and I have read it a thousand times, which without this caution I could have considered as confidential; on the contrary, I always thought, and since the receipt of Mr. Bristow's note I more than ever think, that any disguise on this occasion would be unworthy of us all. The intentions of the several parties I am persuaded are most disinterested and honourable; but it is further necessary, that in their conduct there should be nothing of mystery. It appears clearly, from Bristow's note to me, that far from considering the part you have taken as *imposed* upon

upon you by an authority it was your indiſpenſable duty to obey, he is at this moment in poſſeſſion of a proof which muſt, to his mind at leaſt, carry the ſtrongeſt conviction that you are abſolutely a volunteer in this buſineſs, and whilſt he is ſuffered to remain under this deluſion it cannot be expected he ſhould be ſilent.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W, COWPER.

Mr. Palmer in Anſwer.

My dear Cowper,

You have ſtrangely miſunderſtood my meaning, in ſuppoſing that by the expreſſion of "the part which has been "impoſed upon me" I alluded to any public commiſſion; I meant only the obligations of friendſhip, attachment, and gratitude to Mr. Haſtings; if theſe ties may be diſpenſed with, then I am a volunteer—if they are binding on men of honour and integrity, then I am irreſiſtibly impelled to act as I do. It was repreſented to me that the meaſures purſued by Mr. Briſtow were equally oppreſſive to the Vizier, and inimical to the authority and influence of Mr. Haſtings; and I was required, as the confidential ſervant and friend of Mr. Haſtings, to forward for his information and ſecurity ſuch proceedings as were deemed of the nature above mentioned. I neither excited nor encouraged theſe repreſentations. I repeatedly gave warning of the moſt fatal conſequences to the authors of them, if falſe or exaggerated; they are public, and may be publicly refuted, as they muſt be publicly defended: I care not for the reſult. Briſtow has for months known that ſuch repreſentations have been made through me. How you could have remained in ignorance, is to me aſtoniſhing.

The apparent inconſiſtency of my declaration to you of the cauſe of my detention, and my ſubſequent delay, are very eaſily reconciled; at the time I made that declaration, I had no other cauſe of detention, ſince then, and before my children were in a condition to be moved; I had the Governor's orders to remain here; that order has been repeated, in anſwer to my earneſt application to be releaſed from this uncomfortable and uncreditable ſituation. Neverthele'ſs, I do not conſider myſelf in any public character.

I do not comprehend from what part of the quotation in B.'s anſwer to your note, you infer that he ſupoſes me a volunteer in the preſent diſputes between him and this government: You ſhould know that the occaſion of the letter quoted from the Governor was his propoſal for my going to Rampore, and at a time when the Governor had not the ſmalleſt apprehenſion that my preſence here would be

be neceſſary towards ſupporting his influence, and the credit of his Government at this Durbar. I ſhall be happy if B. can prove an attention and return to the generous ſentiment therein expreſſed on the ſubject of his own influence.

I have no reaſon for deſiring your ſilence on theſe matters, but that of obviating the ſuppoſition of my thinking that my conduct requires apology.

One thing I had like to have forgot; before I went to Rampore I had formed a plan of an eſtabliſhment for myſelf at Furrockabad, which the Governor rejected; ſince my return he re-conſidered and adopted it, but now, on a principle of delicacv, has relinquiſhed it, after obtaining the approbation of his colleagues. This is what I foreſaw and foretold, as ſoon as I knew he intended to lay the complaint from hence before the Board: And I have myſelf, ſince that time, and out of regard to my own character, abſolutely renounced it. I mention this to ſhew you that my intereſt has been ſacrifieed to my attachment to my friend, inſtead of being promoted by it, and thus to convince you that my notices are pure.

Whether the complaints are founded in malice or in truth, and whether they are proved or refuted, are matters of perfect indifference to me, ſo far as they reſpect B. and Hyder. I know of no repreſentations againſt you; your name is eventually mentioned, but not as a principal, nor in the language of complaint, except the recital of the proceedings reſpecting the inveſting you with the adminiſtration of juſtice, may be deemed ſuch. But you will ſee all the papers, I ſuppoſe, or probablv have ſeen them, as Mr. M'Pherſon muſt have furniſhed B. I ſuppoſe with copies.

I conſider it as a proof of your ſincere regard, that you have ſo freely and candidly diſcuſſed this ſubject; that regard will ever be an object of high eſtimation with me. But every conſideration will fall before my duty, attachment, and affection to Mr. Haſtings; whatever object they may come in competition with, I hope and believe that they will never be oppoſed to any conduct or ſentiments of yours.

I am, &c.

Monday. (Signed) Wm. PALMER.

Mr. Cooper in Anſwer.

My dear Palmer,

I was led into the error with reſpect to the nature of your commiſſion, from the expreſſion in your letter, that "I "could not be ignorant, &c."—I aſſure you again, upon my honour, I was perfectly ignorant till your firſt note informed me, that you had any orders whatever from the Governor for

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for your ſtay, and even then, as you ſee, I made a blunder about the nature of them. I have again put the queſtion to B. and find him as little informed as myſelf; I will therefore, merely in the intention of explaining this matter to his ſatisfaction, take ſome opportunity of ſhewing him ſuch part of your letters as are relative to it.

I am, &c. &c.

(Signed) W. COWPER.

True copies of the correſpondence delivered in by Mr. Macpherſon.

E. Hay,

Actg. Secy. to the Secret Dept.

Cons. 10th Novr.

To the Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

To appriſe you of the deſigns of Hyder Beg Cawn is the utmoſt I now can do: In my ſituation, to reſiſt them is, as I have already ſhewn, abſolutely impoſſible. Emboldened by impunity, he is ſtill adding to the catalogue of thoſe crimes which it is my province to record: Upon you Gentlemen, it depends to ſtop their fatal influence, and to inflict the vengeance that belongs to them.

Since I had laſt the honour to addreſs you, the Miniſter has not only poſitively refuſed to comply with my requiſition upon the ſubject of the current year's aſſignments, but has, by his influence with the bankers, ſucceeded in cutting off your reſources in that quarter alſo. The proofs of the former of theſe allegations will be found in encloſure No. 1. to which therefore I beg leave to refer you. The jumma of thoſe diſtricts which have been yet made over to me is indeed ſtated at rupees 73,85,000; but from every information I have been able to obtain regarding them, their value is over-rated in this eſtimate nearly in the ſum of twenty-five lacks. Hence it is obvious, that, if, in reſpect to the further demand I have made of the countries under the management of Almaſs Ally Cawn, the excuſes of the Vizier be admitted, fifty lacks of rupees is the moſt we ſhall this year receive from his Highneſs, although the claim of our Government is rupees 1,21,48,426. 11. 8.—The plea upon which his Highneſs has been induced to found his expectation of the Board's forbearance, can, I humbly conceive, neither be defended upon any principle of natural juſtice, or even reconciled to common ſenſe. It however accords perfectly with the audacity of the man who dictated it, and

without any forced construction may be understood to imply a declaration from Hyder Beg Cawn to the following effect; "By the most treacherous abuse of the confidence "of my Prince, I have at last made myself his tyrant, and "aggrandized my fortunes by the most cruel oppression of "his people; but my ambition and avarice are yet unsatisfied, and it is therefore reasonable and fit that the "English Government should forego their rights, and submit to any distress or difficulty, that I may go on without interruption in the same carreer, until I shall have "finally compleated the ruin of my Sovereign, and, as "far at least as depends upon me, involved his best ally "in the destruction." It is unnecessary to dwell longer on this subject; I shall dismiss it therefore with observing, that had the salutary measures of the Honourable the Governor General been received with a cordiality at this Court, equal to the zeal and earnestness with which they were proposed, and a steadiness shewn by the Prince in the execution of them, answerable to the wisdom of the Councils which produced them, the affairs of Owde would long since have assumed an aspect very different from that in which they now appear, and which, if his Highness's own description of them be acknowledged, are indeed so desperate as to admit of no further aggravation. For the rest, the Minister who created the distresses complained of would be the proper person to relieve them. Nor have I any doubt, if the Vizier were less a cypher, that he would not only compel Hyder Beg Cawn to this act of justice, but would also punish him as he deserves, and I am convinced he would experience the happiest effects from the example, in the influence it would have upon the conduct of those to whom the management of his affairs may hereafter be committed.

I come now, Gentlemen, to speak of the transaction with the bankers. When in June last I procured from the house of Gopaul Doss the sum of fifteen lacks of rupees, I had the promise of so much more, at a short period, as should make their loan to your Government thirty lacks complete. The performance of this further condition in their agreement with me, they have hitherto, however, on various pretences, evaded; and I am sorry to inform you, Gentlemen, that so far from shewing any disposition to fulfil it now, they have even instructed their agent to solicit immediate re payment of the amount already furnished by them, and in all other respects observed such a conduct laterly as clearly indicates a determined purpose of adhering to none of their engagements. To give facility to this plan, they some time since recalled their old agent from hence, and appointed in his room one Munnoo Loll, who, if I am not grossly

grossly mistaken in him, is by his talents and temper better qualified to be the instrument of such designs, than his predecessor, Munseram, a man conspicuous for his honesty and upright dealing. This new servant, anxious, as he pretends, to secure as early as possible the monies due from the Honourable Company for his principals, had the presumption, a few days ago, to detain and appropriate, without my knowledge, the account of such bills of Exchange drawn upon their house by the Aumil of Rohilcund, and others, in favour of your Government. He has also apprized me, by order of the Bankers, that it is out of their power at present to afford me any pecuniary assistance whatever; yet, when they were first nominated to the Treasury here, it was expressly stipulated, that in times of emergency they should advance on demand any sum not exceeding four lacks of rupees; and it is at this baron season of the collections that such aid is more especially required. Their loan to Government last year was 36 lacks; and although no part of this very large amount was put in a course of payment till November, they never hesitated in the interval to furnish such further sums as I had occasion for, and required. This circumstance is of itself sufficient to prove their backwardness proceeds rather from want of inclination than of ability to fulfil their engagements; supposing them, however, to have solved this difficulty, there yet remains another, which it is impossible they should remove. Two days ago Almass Aly Cawn informed me it was his intention to pay into the Treasury a lack of rupees, which lack he had just borrowed from this very house. It is not easy to conceive, that with so much experience these men should mistake their natural and apparent interests, and to forego them upon any light inducement is foreign to the character of their profession. In the present instance, however, they have certainly abandoned those prudent maxims by which alone, as merchants, they ought to have regulated their conduct; and I confess, I can no otherwise account for a violation of their faith, so shameful in all its circumstances, and so obviously subversive of their credit, than by considering it, as I have already said, as a new effort of the intrigues and clandestine management of Hyder Beg Cawn. If, in support of this construction, I am obliged to reason from analogy, and to appeal to the established character of the Minister, and the uniform tenor of his conduct, it is not because more direct evidence does not exist, but because whilst Hyder Beg Cawn maintains his present ascendancy, it is impossible it should be procured. During the merciless reign of Tiberius, from among the mililons who muttered secret and incessant curses against the tyrant, not one man was found hardy enough to come forward and accuse him openly

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in the capitol; yet he who, in those days, and in default of such accusation, had pronounced the sufferings of the Roman people to be imaginary, would justly have provoked the resentment of his fellow citizens, in the same degree in which he had insulted their misfortunes. In the wide circuit of the Vizier's territory, the authority of Hyder Beg Cawn is extended over all alike, and, with a very few exceptions, is unbounded and irresistible. His object is notoriously the ruin of your influence, and the establishment in perpetuity of his own; nor can it be matter of surprize, Gentlemen, that in this pursuit, he should have recourse to every artifice, and resort to every rank for assistance.— Where his power will not intimidate, he employs the fruits of his rapacity to corrupt.

Before I conclude this letter, permit me, Gentlemen, with all deference, to express again my earnest hope, that you will be pleased to take such instant measures as may be effectual in removing those obstacles which have hitherto not only interfered with the authority of our resident at the Court of Owde, but in a manner annihilated it. To the very many, and as I humbly conceive very cogent, reasons, I have already had the honour to submit to you, as contributing to produce this effect, may be superadded the presence of Major Palmer. Although this Gentleman be indeed at present in no ostensible character here, yet having once been entrusted with a commission of the first importance on the part of the Governor General, and being received in consequence by the Vizier with every mark of distinction and respect, the bare cessation of an agency, which ceased only because the functions of it were fulfilled, could in no degree diminish the weight and consequence originally derived from it to Major Palmer; more especially as he is still permitted to keep his residence at Lucknow, and still known by all to stand foremost in the esteem, opinion, and confidence of the first member of your Government. This observation will be further confirmed by a reference to Asiatic manners and policy; and if it should appear warranted in your opinion, it cannot but strike you, Gentlemen, how materially the interests both of the Honourable Company and his Highness may be affected and injured by the collusion of this double influence. If, on the one hand, and in conformity to the positive language of my instructions, I have been from the hour of my arrival using every exertion, if possible, to bring the Minister to a sense of his duty, the Major has, on the other, sedulously, though I believe not solely, employed himself in forwarding to the Honourable the Governor General the falsehoods and fabrications of Hyder Beg Cawn against me. Thus cherished and supported, it is no ways extraordinary, that the Minister should

boldly

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boldly bid me defiance; neither can I flatter myself that he will desist from his malicious aspersion of my character, whilst, as he has already done, he finds a channel ever open for the transmission of his worst calumnies at once so easy and respectable at that of Major Palmer. Under these circumstances, and in this dilemma, I shall with great humility submit to your decision, how far it is possible for me to realize the expectation implied in that part of my instructions, where it is said, "There can be no medium in the "relation between the Resident and the Minister, but "either the Resident must be the slave and vassal of the "Minister, or the Minister at the absolute devotion of the "Resident." I am not indeed in the abject state described in the former part of this reference, nor can I ever be, whilst I have any feeling for my own honour, or any sense of duty and gratitude to my employers. But, however unfeigned my zeal, it can only be exercised negatively at present; the obstacles militating against my positive exertion of it, and which I have stated here and elsewhere, being, if I may be permitted to deliver an opinion, insurmountable in my situation to any man alive.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Lucknow, Your most obedient,
14th October, 1783. Humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 6th Teecandy, or 4th October, 1783.

The assignment hitherto granted by his Highness amounts, in the aggregate, to rupees 73,85,000 Of this sum, as I have already had the honour to explain to you in person, the Aumils have objected to a third part. I am therefore to request, that after deducting the charges, collections, &c. you will give without delay an assignment of rupees 48,49,307 upon the districts of Almass Ally Cawn, to be exclusively appropriated to the liquidation of the Company's balance.

The Minister returned a verbal answer to the person who delivered to him the above letter, intimating that he would wait upon me the next day. He came accordingly, and delivered me the assignment; at the same time soliciting, in the Nabob's name, to relinquish part of the sum I had demanded. I declined any verbal communication with him, but desired to have his Highness's commands in writing.—Upon looking into the assignment, after the Minister had left

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left me, I found it a blank one, and therefore returned it the same evening.—A translation of it follows.

To Almass Ally Cawn.

Having thought proper to grant an assignment upon you in the sum of rupees   account to the Honourable Company, you will be careful to pay the above amount, from the collections of the Fussulee year 1191, to Mr. John Bristow, taking his receipt for the same; agreeably to which, and to this order, credit will be given you by us, Dated 6th Teecandy 1197.

Translation of a Letter from his Highness the Vizier to Mr. John Bristow; dated the 8th Teecandy 1197 Higera, or 6th October 1783.

The discharge of the Honourable Company's balance, and the subsidy to the brigades, has been evermore the first object of my attention; to this end I have chearfully submitted to any distress. In the Fussully year 1189 I furnished, and willingly, as large an amount as possible from my privy purse, and the collections, by the resumption of the Jaghyres; neither do I make any objections now. The Jaghyres of my grandmother and mother, and my uncle Sular Jung, and the sons and family of the deceased Newaub, Iftekawr ud Dowlah, and others of my dear connections and relations, have been sequestered since the year 1189; On account of my exertions in discharge of the Company's assignments, it has not been in my power to make any provision whatever for my mother and grandmother; others have received some trifle, but in general they been for these two last years living in hopes of better times.

This year, such are the dispensations of Providence, the necessary expences will be two-fold, on account of the scarcity and dearness of grain, arising from the failure of the periodical rains. Without the necessaries of life—life cannot be preserved! I must therefore request, that you will, in making your arrangement on account of the Honourable Company's assignments, this year of famine, consider the distresses of my family, and the necessity there is that a provision should be made for them. You are fully acquainted with the balance of the last year, and the scarcity of the present; according to settlement, letters of assignment for the year 1191 have been issued to the respective aumils. The situation of districts which remain, and which are appropriated for the payment of my disbursements, is also known to you, and how inadequate they are to answer this end, Hitherto the districts under Almass Ally Cawn have

been

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been charged with assignments on account the Honourable Company, and have also furnished proportionate sums for my expences. You are now, Sir, desirous that the whole of the districts under the management of Almas should be given up to the Honourable Company. In this case, what will remain for my subsistance*, and how shall I be able to exist? I beg you will inform me of what you think is fitting to be done, and I will conform to it accordingly.

Mr. Bristow to his Highness the Vizier, in Reply; dated 9th Tucaudy 1197 Higera, or 7th October 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter relative to my request that the whole of the districts under the management of Almass Ally Cawn might be given in assignment to the Company. The attachment of the Company to your Highness's family is well known to you. This year, on account of the delay in making the settlement, the drought, the dearness of grain, and the disorder pervading every department, I see little prospect of being able to liquidate the debts due to the bankers, &c. and to provide for the necessary disbursements of the brigades, and no resource, in case you do not favour me with the whole of the districts above mentioned: I therefore am hopeful that you will be pleased to issue orders to this effect. Whatever it may be your pleasure to represent to the Honourable Governor General on this subject, I will communicate to him faithfully, and submit to you such commands as I may receive from him in answer.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 9th Teecaudy, or 7th October 1783.

I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy of a letter I have addressed to his Highness, in answer to one I had the honour to receive from him. It is proper, Sir, you should procure his Highness's shoakas for granting the whole of

* *Vide general estimate of revenue account the year* 1191, *No.* 3.

Net Revenue —	*Rs.*	1,68,22,772	8	3
The Company's Claims, No. 2 —		1,21,84.420	11	8
	Rupees	46,38,351	12	7

This is a sum exceeding the Nabob's personal expences, amounting last year to thirty-two lacks. The minister only can explain why a sufficient proportion of it is not appropriated to that purpose.

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the districts under the management of Almas Ally Cawn in assignment to the Company. In this affair procrastination is not fit.

Hyder Beg Cawn in Reply; dated 9th Teecaudy, or 7th October 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, covering the transcript of an address from you to the Vizier; and agreeably to your commands, after conferring with his Highness, will make my report to you.

His Highness the Vizier to Mr. Bristow; dated 11th Teecaudy, or 9th October 1783.

I stated to you the scarcity of grain, and the situation of poverty and wretchedness to which my relations, my friends, and dependants were reduced, as the cause of the encrease of my personal expences, and as a motive that I hoped would induce you to favour me in your arrangements for the present year. You write me, in reply, desiring the whole of the revenues of the districts under the management of Almass Ally Cawn may be granted in assignment to the Honourable Company: Thus the proportion I was wont to receive from those districts, and which till the end of last year I continued to enjoy, is now denied me. I have never shewn any backwardness on the subject of the Company's claims, neither do I wish to avoid satisfying them at present; of this disposition it is impossible to give a stronger proof than in the unlimited assignments I have now granted on Almass Ally Cawn, and the Naibs of Allahabad and Furruckabad. I submitted to your consideration and justice, how far I was entitled to particular indulgence in what related to my expences at this time of public scarcity, and of extreme distress among my nobles, relations, friends, and dependants. The answer you send me, as I have already observed, is that even what I have hitherto uniformly received from the districts of Almas, shall no longer be allowed me, which indeed amounts to a plain declaration, that I am not to look for any provision whatever. You inform me, it is your intention to address the Honourable Governor General on the subject; be pleased to do so. I am very well convinced that Mr. Hastings will attend to my representation touching the unhappy condition of my nobles, my relations, my friends, and dependants, consequent upon the resumption of the Jaghyres, as also of those whose subsistence depends upon their stipends, but who, from an absolute failure of assets, have received nothing during the two last years. As soon as I shall be acquainted with

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with the pleasure of the Honourable Governor General I will conform to it; and till his answer arrives, let the division of Almass's assignment be postponed: In the mean time, I have no objection that whatever part of the revenue of his districts may come in should be appropriated to the payment of the brigades. With respect to what you write, relative to the delay in making the settlement, and the general confusion and disorder of my government, it is a subject, Sir, I did not wish should come in discussion between us; every man forms his opinion in these matters as his understanding directs him, and I have done so too; however, as you have thought proper to enter upon the subject, it is necessary I should declare my sentiments. The declaration made by you in the months of Syte, touching the recall of the old Aumils, and the appointment of the new, by being promulgated* was the cause of the balances. The recall of those whose Kistbundees were made out to the end of Bhadoon, before the expiration of that period, was the loss of lacks. Had the Aumils been permitted to remain so long as by their agreement they ought to have done, or till the end of the year, there would have been no such balance. The effect, which resulted from the untimely recall of the Aumils, you, Sir, attribute to a delay in adjusting the settlement.

Mr. Bristow to his Highness the Nabob Vizier, dated 12th Teekaudy, or 10th October 1783.

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter of the 11th instant. In reply to your commands on the subject of the public distresses, and the resumption of the Jaghires, they occurred long before my arrival at your Highness's court, and it was my wish that your affairs should be well regulated, but the times were unfavourable; and I withdrew from any interference, except in giving my advice in affairs which I thought for the benefit of your government. Provided reports were circulated of the dismission of the Aumils in the months of Syte, it is to others they may be attributed, as I observed the utmost caution in these matters.

I have already represented to your Highness, concerning the assignment on Almass Ally Cawn, that unless the whole amount of revenue due from him were granted, it would be impossible to support the present year's disbursements, and

* *The Resident has conducted all business with the minister by letter; and the correspondence may be hereafter produced, if necessary, in answer to the Nabob's charges, which are dictated by Hyder Beg, and groundless.*

I must

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I muſt alſo now repeat my repreſentation to you on this head. I ſhall certainly tranſmit to the Honourable Governor General and Council a copy of your ſhockas to me; but it is out of my power to delay the execution of the Board's poſitive orders. I cannot aſſent to any ſuſpenſion of the Company's claims until the receipt of an anſwer, or under any other pretence, whatever it may be; and I therefore hope your Highneſs will be pleaſed to grant the aſſignment on Almaſs Ally Cawn for the ſum of rupees 48,94,307.

Mr. Briſtow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 13th Tecaudy, or 11th October 1783.

I incloſe you two letters I have had the honour to receive from his Highneſs, in anſwer to my requiſition upon the ſubject of the Honourable Company's aſſignment. The accompanying extract of a letter from the Honourable Governor General, which it pains me to obſerve I have already had frequent occaſion to make uſe of, will point out to you, Sir, the light in which thoſe letters will be conſidered by our government; for the reſt, the orders of the Honourable Governor General and Council on this ſubject leave me no option. It is neither in my power to make a previous reference, or to give my conſent to any delay whatever, on any pretence whatever, with reſpect to the diſtricts of Almaſs Ally Cawn—the aſſignment whereof, if not granted me to-morrow morning, I ſhall look upon as poſitively refuſed, and act accordingly.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply, dated 13th Teecaudy, or 11th October 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, and ſhall to-morrow minutely ſtate to his Highneſs what you have given me in command to repreſent to him. With reſpect to what relates to myſelf, I ſhall do myſelf the pleaſure to explain to you how blameleſs my conduct has been. I neither have or ever will oppoſe the intereſts of the Company; and, conſcious of the rectitude of my intentions, I am perſuaded that, in the preſent inſtance, no fault can in juſtice be attributed to me.

A true tranſlation.

(Signed) W. COWPER.

Extract of Bengal Secret Conſultations, the 24th November, 1783.

The following letters having been received from Lieutenant Colonel Martin, and Mr. Briſtow, on the 6th, and a motion

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motion delivered in consequence by the Governor General on the 20th instant, it was circulated, with the interrogatories accompanying it, to the members of the Board, who delivered the opinions which are entered after it.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with your command of the 13th instant, through your Secretary, requiring of me an exact narrative of all I know concerning the various matters of complaint, which have passed between the Nabob Vizier and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn on one side, and Mr. Bristow on the other. Irksome and disagreeable as it may be to me to appear in this contest, yet as it was from the best of motives that I had any thing to do in it, and totally with a view of mediating between the parties, I hope my conduct will appear proper and becoming one who was on the best terms with both; but as from motives of delicacy (in which I flatter myself the Honourable Board will indulge me) I wish to avoid appearing the accuser of any one, and particularly of a person whom I have been long intimate with, I humbly beg to be excused giving in a narrative of such circumstances as may have come to my knowledge; at the same time, if my testimony cannot be dispensed with, I am ready to answer all such questions as may be put to me by your Honourable Board, relative to that matter to the best of my recollection in all cases, and to support my evidence by writings in my possession, where it may be done.

Lucknow, I have the honour to be, &c.
the 24th October, 1783. (Signed) CL. MARTIN

Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your commands of the 13th instant, through your Secretary, advising me that you have been pleased to require from Colonel Martin an exact narrative of all he knows concerning the various matters of complaint exhibited against me by the Vizier, and his acting minister Hyder Beg Cawn, directing me in consequence to shew that Gentleman copies of all the papers in which such complaints were included (and which have been transmitted to me from your Government) should he desire to see them, and informing me that, as the Honourable Board wish to give me an opportunity of justification, and of replying to Colonel Martin's evidence, he had been ordered to furnish me with a copy of it.

Immediately on the receipt of these your commands, I wrote a letter to Colonel Martin, transcript whereof, together with his reply, I have the honour to enclose. I shortly after received from him an address for my perusal, which

he at the same time acquainted me it was his intention to submit to the Board, in answer to their requisition herein above-mentioned. In this communication there is nothing, as I conceive, Gentlemen, that makes justification on my part necessary: Colonel Martin has insinuated a great deal, but said nothing. On the other hand I have repeatedly, though vainly, solicited him to speak out, and if he knows aught, to say what he knows. In the last resort, therefore I am compelled, Gentlemen, to make my appeal to you, most humbly and earnestly entreating, that you will lay your commands upon Colonel Martin to this effect. I can possibly feel no alarm about the result of informations or accusations, provided they be publicly exhibited; and whilst the opportunity of defence is afforded me, I shall continue alike indifferent to all that the inventive malice of my enemies, or the ultimate knowledge of my friends, can furnish.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
October 29th, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lieutenant Colonel Claud Martin, Lucknow.

Sir,

I enclose you a copy of the Honourable Board's orders to me of the 13th instant, and am ready to furnish you with any papers you may require for your information.

I so long ago as the 6th July made you a similar request; and I must now repeat my most earnest solicitations, that you will freely and unreservedly communicate every circumstance within your knowledge having any relation to the charges exhibited against me before the Board by the Nabob and his Minister. I have been attacked by the vilest calumnies, and I chearfully appeal to fair and candid evidence, wherever such can be found, as the sure means of exposing the malicious designs of my enemies, and brightening my own character.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
24th October, 1783. Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court

Sir,

I have this moment received the honour of your letter of the 24th instant, inclosing a copy of one from the Honourable Board's Secretary to you.

Last night I received one to the same purpose; and as I intend answering it by this evening post (or dauk) or to-

morrow

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morrow at furtheſt, I will firſt tranſmit it to you for peruſal, before I diſpatch it.

Lucknow, I have the hónour to be, &c.
24th October, 1783. (Signed) CL. MARTIN.

To Lieutenant Colonel Claud Martin.

Sir,

I have received your letter, incloſing one you propoſe addreſſing to the Honourable Governor General and Council. It appears, in my opinion, that your evidence cannot be diſpenſed with, otherwiſe the Honourable Board would never have called upon you for it; and I muſt again repeat my ſolicitations, earneſtly requeſting you will not delay to prepare your narrative, and produce the written evidence which you mention having in your poſſeſſion.

I am the more anxious on this head, as your addreſs to the Governor General and Council contains, in fact, a general charge againſt me, and plainly aſſerts your readineſs to ſupport the Miniſter's accuſations. I am only to deſire that you will do me the favour to forego all delicacy towards me, in the apprehenſion of becoming my accuſer; and, both in obedience to the commands of the Board, and for my ſatisfaction, prepare your narrative as ſoon as you conveniently can, as any delay will only be protracting to a future day what ought now to be done.

I have the honour to be, &c.
Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
24th October, 1783. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

To Lieutenant Colonel Claud Martin.

Sir,

I wrote to you a letter on the 24th inſtant, in anſwer to your's incloſing your addreſs to the Honourable Governor General and Council, which I kept, thinking you meant it a copy for my information.—I now return it.

I have already ſolicited you to prepare your narrative; and as you have declared to the Board that your evidence will accuſe a perſon (meaning myſelf) whom you have been long intimate with, I have now a right to require your evidence. A formal declaration of this nature to our Adminiſtration, is a very ſerious matter to my character; and ſince you have wounded my reputation by ſtyling yourſelf my accuſer, I muſt again deſire that you will give me the ſatisfaction to ſpecify your charges.

I have the honour to be, &c.
Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
October 26th, 1783. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Governor

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20th November, 1783.

Governor General. Lieutenant Colonel Martin, at Lucknow, having expressed his desire to be excused from laying before the Board the information required, in the letter written to him by our Secretary on the 13th of last month, but declared a willingness to answer all such questions as might be put to him by the Board on the subject of it; and Mr. Bristow himself having urgently solicited a repetition of our commands to Colonel Martin, I beg leave to lay before the Board some interrogatories which I wish to be put to him, and move the same accordingly. My desire is, that they should be sent without delay to Colonel Martin, and that he should be informed of our intention to require his attestation on oath to the truth of his answers to them. I think it proper that he should be ordered to give a copy of his answers to Mr. Bristow, conformably to the orders already issued, but not to withhold his reply from the Board after it is prepared.

Mr. Stables. I have no objection to the interrogatories as coming from the Governor General.

Mr. Macpherson. I have no objection to the interrogatories which the Governor General has proposed being sent to Colonel Martin; but I imagine it would be more in form that he should give his evidence upon the charges at large, as was at first proposed by Hyder Beg Cawn, and desired by the Board.

Mr. Wheler. I have no objection to the interrogatories being put as they should to Colonel Martin.

The Governor General. I adhere to the terms of the question.

Ordered accordingly.

Draft of Interrogatories to be put to Lieutenant Colonel Martin.

Has Mr. Bristow, to your knowledge, at any time or times, either personally or by message, directly or indirectly, forbid Hyder Beg Cawn to inform the Governor General of the state of affairs at Lucknow? or has he, to your knowledge, given injunctions, in any mode or manner, that no person should correspond with the Governor General on that subject? And has he at any time expressed displeasure against Hyder Beg Khan for so doing, to you?

2d. Do you know whether Mr. Bristow ever demanded a contribution of 25 lacks of rupees from the private property of Hyder Beg Cawn? and whether that demand was accompanied by a threat to procure the above sum, in case of a refusal, by a change in the office of Naibut; that is

to

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to ſay, by the diſmiſſion of Hyder Beg Khan, and the appointment of ſome other perſon in his place?

Did Hyder Beg Khawn, in conſequence of the above demand, ever ſend a meſſage by you to Mr. Briſtow, purporting, "That the Naibut, and the reſpectability which "he poſſeſſed, were the gifts of the Governor General; "that his Highneſs with his uſual benevolence had ſhewn "favour to him; that he on his part had never been deficient in duty to either Sircar; and that as Mr. Briſtow "had been induced, at the inſtigation of his enemies, to "make the preceding declaration, if he was really determined, in conſequence of ſuch advice, to diſmiſs him "from his office, he would retire with his family to Calcutta?"

Did you reply to the above by meſſage, either from yourſelf, or on the part, or by the deſire of Mr. Briſtow?

Did Hyder Beg Cawn go to Mr. Briſtow the next day? And did you then ſend a meſſage to Hyder Beg Khawn by Raja Annud Raun, entreating him in the ſtrongeſt terms to take no notice of the altercation that had paſſed reſpecting the demand on his private property for 25 lacks of rupees? And was this meſſage ſent by you to Hyder Beg Cawn, with the knowledge or at the deſire of Mr. Briſtow, or without his knowledge?

3. Do you remember that Mr. Briſtow did on his arrival order Hyder Beg Khawn to deliver up his papers to his inſpection? And that they were delivered accordingly?

4. Did Mr. Briſtow to your knowledge make early declarations of his intentions to aſſume the immediate and entire charge of the Nabob's Adminiſtration? Or to your knowledge aſſert that he was to take all the affairs of the Soubah of Oude, all the offices, the houſehold eſtabliſhment, and all the troops in the ſervice of his Highneſs, under his own immediate management; and make the diſburſements to each with own hand?

5. Do you know whether certain ſoccahs or mandates, reſpecting the detachment at Futty Ghur, and the Tunka of the Toorkſuvvaurs, which were written, and the Vizier's privy ſeal applied to them, without the knowledge of his Highneſs, were ſo written, and the Vizier's ſeal ſo applied, by the orders of Mr. Briſtow, or otherwiſe? And do you remember whether Mr. Briſtow made uſe of any arguments or menaces, and what were they, to induce or intimidate Hyder Beg Khawn to comply with ſuch orders? Do you know that Mr. Briſtow did, upon this, or any other occaſion, declare, that he had it in command from the Governor General and Gentlemen of the Council to act as he ſhould deem proper, without informing the Nabob?

6. Do

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6. Do you remember that Mr. Briftow ordered Hyder Beg Cawn to write and deliver to him accounts of the expences, houfehold, kitchen, and ftables? And that Hyder Beg Khawn hefitated to comply, urging that the Nabob would refent it if he fhould prefume to deliver thofe papers without his confent? Do you know whether Mr. Briftow declared in reply that he had orders to take charge of all papers; or that in confequence of that declaration the papers above mentioned were delivered to him by Hyder Beg Khawn?

7. Did Mr. Briftow, to your knowledge, compel Hyder Beg Khawn to fend the Nabob Vizier's Mutfuddies, or official fervants, to his (Mr. Briftow's) houfe, for the purpofe of writing mufter rolls of the Nabob's Mutayena, or militia forces? Do you know whether Mr. Cooper affembled them for that purpofe, and for what fpace of time, and in what manner they were obliged to attend, and write there for the purpofe of making out thofe mufters?

8. Do you know whether Mr. Briftow ever ordered 4,000 horfe and 7,000 foot of thofe Mutayena troops to be difcharged; or ever declared that if the Aumils fhould have occafion for troops in lieu of thefe difmiffed, he fhould fend fepoys enlifted by himfelf to affift them? Do you know whether the preceding acts were done with or without the knowledge of the Nabob Vizier?

9. Do you know any thing of the appointment of a trooper named Mahomed Beg, as Sezawal at Furruckabad? or that he was appointed in confequence of pofitive orders from Mr. Briftow?

Do you know whether Hyder Beg Khawn declared, at the time, that the appointment of Mahomed Beg was contrary to the inclinations and remonftrances of the Vizier? or do you, on any good authority, know whether it was fo or not?

10. When Mr. Briftow affumed the infpection and controul of the Nabob's private expences by the appointment of a Treafurer and Comptroller over his houfehold, were thofe meafures to your knowledge urged to the Nabob, and carried into execution in oppofition to his earneft entreaties and vehement proteftations, or not? And did any converfation pafs between you and Mr. Briftow upon this fubject, and what was it?

11. Do you remember that Mr. Briftow cenfured the encreafe of expences for elephants, and the neceffaries of the Vizier's houfehold; and that he gave any directions or orders for the reduction of them?

12. Do you know whether Mr. Briftow, during the altercations refpecting the appointments of Treafurer and Comptroller, ever expreffed himfelf rudely or difrefpect-

fully

fully towards the Nabob Vizier, either to his Highness personally, or in conversation with Hyder Beg Khawn; or that he ever directed or authorized Hyder Beg Khawn to repeat the particulars of his part of such conversation to the Nabob as his? and what do you recollect to have been the expressions used by Mr. Bristow to the Nabob Vizier, or ordered to be repeated to him?

13. Did Mr. Bristow, to your knowledge, ever declare his resolution to Hyder Beg Khawn, or to others, to make the appointments of Treasurer or Comptroller to the Nabob's household, whether his Highness consented or not; and at the commencement of the ensuing year to take the whole of his revenues under his own management, to dismiss the Nabob's Aumils, and appoint others of his own choice; and to issue with his own hand to the Nabob what he might deem necessary for his Highness's expences; or that he would not suffer the Nabob's authority to exist in a single Mehal?

14. Is it known to you, whether Mr. Bristow, after taking the Company's assignments for the current year, did give orders that no monies should be issued from the remainder of his Highness's revenues to any persons whatever; declaring, that when the appointments of Treasurer and Comptroller had taken place, he would call in the monies, and direct the disbursements himself?

Do you know whether the subsistence of the Tunkaudars, Jagheerdars, troops, or people employed in the offices of Government, was suspended or stopped in consequence of such orders so given by Mr. Bristow? And whether such suspension was followed by any complaints or clamours on the part of those who were affected by it?

15. Have you any knowledge of Mr. Bristow's having declared to the Nabob Vizier, that he might act as he thought proper with respect to his Ministers; or of his having offered to give the Nabob an engagement in writing under his seal, that no support or assistance should be afforded to his Ministers on the part of the English—or in any manner urge the Nabob to dismiss them?

16. Do you know whether Mr. Bristow ever declared his intentions, or threatened to suspend or stop the payment of the monies assigned to the Nabob's privy purse, in case he should refuse to acquiesce in his measures, in order to force his compliance?

17. Have you any knowledge of the substance of a coulnameh, or engagement, proposed by Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Khawn, on a presumption that the Governor General was removed from his office, and that a successor was then on his way to India; the intent of the said coul-nameh being to establish a coalition and union of views and in-

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terests between Mr. Bristow and Hyder Beg Cawn, when such change in the first office of this Government should take place? Or that Mr. Bristow, on receiving information of the complaints exhibited against him, did deliver a draft of a coul nameh to Hyder Beg Khawn, differing in meaning and substance from the one which he had before proposed? Or do you know aught of any other attempts made by Mr. Bristow to persuade Hyder Beg Khawn to enter into secret engagements with him, for the purpose of supporting and promoting their joint interests and influence, both at that period and in future?

18. Do you know any thing of any effort made by Mr. Bristow, either in conversation with Hyder Beg Khawn, or by other means, to suppress his evidence or information respecting the transaction of the Shoccahs, i.e. That the privy seal was affixed to them without the knowledge of the Vizier, by his orders?

19. Do you know whether Mr. Bristow did at any time declare his determination to take the administration of justice in the city of Lucknow into his own hands? What was the appointment received by Mr. Cooper from Mr. Bristow in the office of Adawlut, and what the nature and extent of the authority which he for some time exercised under that appointment?

20. Was your intermediation ever employed by Mr. Bristow between him and Hyder Beg Khawn, either in the way of conference or correspondence, on any or all of the preceding subjects? If it was, what were the particulars, to the best of your recollection and belief, which passed between you and Hyder Beg Khawn, or you and Mr. Bristow, relative thereto, either in conversation, or by note or letters?

The Governor General's motion being agreed to, the interrogatories proposed to be put to Lieut. Col. Martin were transmitted by the Secretary to that Gentleman, with the following letter; and copy of them was also sent to Mr. Bristow, with the letter that is entered after it.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor General and Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th last month, in which you desire to be excused from giving in a narrative of such circumstances as have come to your knowledge in respect to the various matters of complaint which have passed between the Nabob Vizier and his Minister Hyder Beg Khawn, on one part, and Mr. Bristow on the other; declaring at the same time, that if your testimony cannot be dispensed with, you are ready to answer

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answer all such questions as may be put to you by the Honourable Board relative to those matters, to the best of your recollection in all cases, and to support your evidence by writings in your possession, where it may be done. In obedience to the orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, I transmit to you the inclosed interrogatories, to which they require your replies; and am to inform you of their intention to call for your attestation on oath to the truth of the answers. You are ordered to furnish Mr. Bristow with a copy of them, in conformity to the orders given you on the 13th of last month, but not to withhold them from the Board as soon as you have prepared them.

Council Chamber, I am, &c.
23d November, 1783.

Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Court of his Excellency the Vizier.

Sir,

I am ordered to acknowledge the Board's receipt of your letter of the 29th of last month, and to acquaint you, that having thought proper to transmit certain interrogatories to Lieut. Col. Martin (of which I transmit you a copy inclosed) for his replies to them, they have also been pleased to direct Lieut. Col. Martin to furnish you with a copy of the latter, conformably to the orders sent him on the 13th of last month.

I am, Sir,
Council Chamber, Your most obedt.
23d November, 1783. humble servant.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 25th November, 1783.

Read again Mr. Bristow's letter of the 14th of October, recorded in consultation 10th November, beginning with the words "I come now," and ending with the words "management of Hyder Beg Cawn."

The Governor General lays before the Board the following paper, delivered to him by Lalah Khosaul Chund, the Gomastah of Gopaul Doss.

Fifteen lacks and some thousand rupees of the Company are due in the Lucknow house's accounts. At this time there is a great deficiency of cash in the house at Lucknow; and your Highness is well acquainted with the concerns of bankers, that without money they must be disgraced. I am hopeful that you will at present order as much as you can afford to supply, that my name's credit may be maintained,

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and direct a letter to be written to Mr. John Bristow, to provide money to be paid into the house.

Ordered, That Mr. Bristow be directed to transmit to the Board copies of the engagements with Gopaul Doss, for a loan from that house of fifteen or thirty lacks of rupees; and that he do particularly explain to the Board, in the clearest manner, all the circumstances attending this transaction from the beginning.

Read the following letters, with their several inclosures, from Mr. Bristow.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to inclose you my correspondence with Sir John Cumming, on the subject of the refractory conduct of the Zemindars of Pauly.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
5th October, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow; dated 2d October 1783.

About five months since, Mr. M'Lean went to Pilebeat to purchase timbers, &c. for the repairs of the boats and budjerows at this station. You were so favourable to the undertaking as to give him purwannahs, and recommendatory letters to the several Aumils and officers of government. Timbers and other stores, to the amount of 6,000 rupees, were purchased and embarked in some new boats which he had caused to be built in that neighbourhood. When the boats arrived at Paulee, the inhabitants seized them, and took a considerable part of what they contained, converting it to their own use; this happened about the latter end of July, since which every means, except that of violence, has been attempted to procure the release of the boats, but without effect. Perwannahs from Bussunt Roy were torn to pieces with the greatest contempt, and the bearers, after being unmercifully flogged, were sent back with the most provoking answers. I am convinced it is not in the power of Bussunt Roy to enforce obedience to his orders; and that unless a military force be sent from this station, the boats, and the remainder of the stores, must inevitably be lost: but this is no more than a single instance, out of a vast number, which, if necessary, I could relate of the audacious acts committed by the people of Paulee, and the villages round it; it is impossible for any thing to be brought to camp, unless a severe and exemplary punishment deter the offenders from future acts of violence. If you agree with me in opinion respecting the necessity of sending a military force to their chastisement,

ment, I wish you would obtain from his Excellency an order for that purpose, I would then send a regiment with two six pounders, with orders to release the boats, and to seize as many of the offenders as they could lay hands on, who should either be sent to Lucknow to receive their punishment, or be delivered over to the Aumil, as might be most agreeable to the Vizier. Should an order be sent me for the execution of this business, I request it may be done with as much secrecy as possible, since to publish the intention would utterly defeat it, and perhaps stimulate the people to burn and destroy the boats, with all the stores yet remaining.

The advantages to be derived from punishing the rebellious people of that district would not be confined to our camp, which, indeed, are but a secondary consideration, when compared with the good effect it would have in restoring the lost authority of the Aumil. Bussunt Roy has repeatedly informed me, that for some years past, he has been able to make no collections among them; and that the people he has sent on that duty have been driven away by force of arms. A severe example would operate not only on those who were the subjects of it, but on all the country within many coss of them.

Mr. Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, in reply.

I have received your letter of the 2d instant; and have the pleasure to enclose you an order from his Highness the Vizier, authorizing you to detach a competent force against the Zemindars of Pauly, apprehend the offenders, and inform the Vizier of your proceedings, for his further orders.

Translation, from his Highness the Nabob Vizier to Colonel Sir John Cumming.

It appears that timbers were on the road from Puly Beet, and the Zemindars of Pauly have interrupted their passage. You will please to dispatch a competent force to act against the said Zemindars. Apprehend the offenders, and report your proceedings to me, that hereafter you may do with them as I direct.

True copies.
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I had the honour to address you at length, in my letter of the 30th August, on the subject of the balance due from Khaujah Ain ul Deen, the Aumil of Rohilcund. I am

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ſorry to inform you, that, as I foretold, all my endeavours ſince, to realize any part of it, have been quite fruitleſs. The encloſed, which I have received lately from the commanding officer at Barelly, will explain to you, gentlemen, upon what protection Khaujah Ain ul Deen's expectation of eluding payment is founded: he is now on the way to Lucknow, and it is my intention to order him into cloſe confinement when he arrives, and until I am favoured with your commands concerning him.—If Colonel Knudſon's communications may be credited, and certainly they are ſtrongly ſupported by the fact, this precaution is at leaſt abſolutely neceſſary, as it is impoſſible to indulge a hope that Khauja Ain ul Deen will ever diſcharge the heavy arrears due from him, whilſt he is permitted to hold any intercourſe with the miniſter, and in concert with him to continue freſh excuſes, equally frivolous with thoſe he has already made uſe of to juſtify his refuſal.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
the 30th Oct, 1783. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

To John Briſtow, Eſquire, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

I have had the honour in due time to receive your letters, bearing date 6th, 8th, and 17th inſtant. Flattered with the daily hopes of being able to tranſmit you ſome ſatisfactory accounts regarding the honourable Company's demand of rupees 12,96,473. 2. 6 on Khauje Ain ul Deen, has been the cauſe of my not replying to them before; but with concern I muſt here inform you, that every exertion in my power to procure payment thereof has hitherto proved ineffectual, Khajah Ain ul Deen denies, with an inflexible obſtinacy, that he rented the province of Rohilcund for the year 1190, at any ſtipulated ſum, therefore conceives himſelf reſponſible to government only for the neat collections of that country during that period; that the balance due from him does only amount to about three lacks of rupees, which he affirms to have tendered to Rajah Soorut Sing, in bonds from his Naibs. He continually urges me to ſend him to Lucknow, where he promiſes to pay either to you or the Vizier's miniſter, Hyder Beg Cawn, whatever further balance may appear due from him on the adjuſting the accounts of his collections for the Fuſſulle year 1190. I have agreed to ſend him thither, provided he would find ſecurity, either from the merchants or other perſons of property here, to ſatisfy the Honourable Company's claim on his arrival at that place; but as he refuſes doing this, and perſuaded that his motives for being ſo impatient to be removed from hence proceeds ſolely from a deſign to elude payment

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payment of this demand; and in which opinion I have been confirmed from a declaration he made ſhortly after his confinement, which has ſince come to my knowledge, that he, by going to Lucknow, the intereſt he had with the miniſter, with one lack of rupees, would immediately procure him a full acquittance of whatever demands were made on him on account his collections; Item, that the worſt *which could* happen to him there, would be a few months confinement in the priſon called Iſa Gunge. Convinced that the emergency of the public render it abſolutely neceſſary to realize every reſource, I have cauſed this Aumil to be put under cloſe reſtraint, and alſo ſecured his family and effects in this town under a guard; and I beg leave to aſſure you, that the moſt ſpirited exertion ſhall not be wanting on my ſide to ſecure from Khaljah Ain ul Deen, if not the whole, as much of the Honourable Company's claim on him as can be recovered.

The letter you ſent me for Rajah Soorut Sing, regarding the balance due from Khaljah Ain ul Deen's Naibs, I did immediately forward to him, with my earneſt requeſt, that he would take the neceſſary ſteps for collecting their amount; but as the Rajah's faint interference therein leads me to believe that he is unwilling to charge himſelf with their collections, ſince they are likely to prove a diminution to his own receipts, on account of the inability of the renters, from whom thoſe balances are due, I am apprehenſive that little or nothing will be realized, unleſs the Rajah enters heartily into this buſineſs, and uſes vigorous means to enforce the payment.

I am, &c.

Barelly, (Signed) CHRIS. NUDSON.

23d October 1783.

A true Copy.

(Signed) J. Hill,

Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

Gentlemen,

I had the honour to addreſs you on the 9th July laſt, relative to the mutiny of the Vizier's troops ſtationed in the province of Rohilcund. On this occaſion, a complete battalion of theſe troops deſerted their poſts, and marched to Lucknow: As no adequate puniſhment followed this daring act of ſedition, it cannot be matter of ſurprize, that they ſhould have proceeded ſince to the laſt outrages, and which have terminated in the murder of their ſuperior officer, and in the plunder of the diſtricts they were appointed to defend. It is alſo very natural, that the prevalence of ſuch an example ſhould extend itſelf to the other forces of his Highneſs, and excite in them the ſame turbulence of ſpirit, and

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and contempt of authority; indeed, combined with the causes of dissatisfaction, it has already operated so powerfully, that within these few days the prince has been in a manner besieged in his capital, and by that part of his soldiery to whose guard, as more especially relying upon their fidelity and attachment, the safety of his person had been immediately entrusted. The detail of the one, and the other of these facts is briefly this:—The Rohilcund battalion herein above-mentioned (in whom, as I have already observed, a conduct meriting decimation had been attended with no heavier punishment than the dismission of a few of the ringleaders) was about a month since put in orders to march to Sultanpore. These orders were no sooner notified to them, than they again became refractory, declaring, and for some time adhering to their declaration, not to obey them; when at last they were persuaded to move, they set out in a disorderly manner, and it was not till they had well nigh reached Hyder Gur, distant about ten coss from Lucknow, that they were overtaken and joined by their commandant, Meir Fuzzull Ally. This officer they immediately seized, and binding him to a gun, caused him to expire under their blows, leaving his mangled body to be publickly borne into the presence of the Nabob. After this flagitious murder they continued their route to Hyder Gur, where they were joined by another battalion, and both having fixed their quarters in the neighbourhood, subsist by the plunder of the surrounding country, and by contributions raised upon the inhabitants. The adjutant of the battalion last mentioned has also been put to death by the sepoys; and I am certainly informed that the late Aumil of Sultanpore, Myr Saud ud Dien, who was on his way hither in order to the adjustment of his accounts, has been made prisoner by the mutineers, and met with very harsh and cruel treatment from them. This is the joint act of both corps, and they still detain him.

The insurrection of the Turksowars, which I come now to speak of, filled me with the most serious alarm. On the 26th ultimo they seized their magazine, and surrounded and took possession of all the avenues leading to the residence of the minister, denouncing vengeance against him. Hyder Beg Cawn, although thus marked out as the principal object of their resentment, had in reality little to apprehend, protected as he was by a body of forces, more numerous, and better appointed, than the assailant's troops, loyal perhaps only from interest, but not likely to abandon his standard, whilst the power of bestowing largesses remains to him. It is indeed much to be lamented, that the funds which enable him to do this are extorted from the hopeless industry of the oppressed and necessitous Ryot—The Vizier has

has no such funds. I hastened to make a tender of my services to his Highness, whose means of defence also, when compared with those of his minister, were very disproportionate—a circumstance I was not a little apprehensive might in the end expose him personally to the attacks and insults of the seditious. Happily at the end of three days, the promises and soothings of the minister prevailed; and I feel infinite satisfaction in acquainting you, that the commotion ended without bloodshed; should, however, these engagements hereafter be forgotten, I cannot avoid anticipating the danger that may ensue to the capital, and even to the person of the Nabob, from the undistinguishing fury of the soldiery, freshly excited by disappointment, unrestrained by any remains of discipline, and exasperated by famine. To say the truth, gentlemen, this body guard of his highness is literally starving. The consequence is inevitable. In proportion as they are debarred of their lawful expectations, and the means of honest subsistence is wanting to them, they are tolerated in the breach of order and neglect of duty. One instance of irregularity and disobedience encourages to, and is succeeded by, others of the same kind. The practice becomes familiar, and, as we have seen, terminates at last in mutiny and sedition. The terms subscribed to on this occasion by the minister are, first, the payment of 48,000 rupees immediately, in part of 17 months arrears due to the Turksowars; and, secondly, assignments for the remainder, to the amount of ten lacks more, upon certain of the Aumils, whereof one for four lacks stands in the name of Almass Ally Cawn. To every circumstance of the negociation, in its progress and after its conclusion, I continued an utter stranger; and it may be inferred, that it was Hyder Beg Cawn's purpose to leave me in ignorance, had I not, by a formal requisition, compelled him to an explanation. In waving this necessary ceremony, or rather duty, he seems to have forgotten how large a proportion of the Company's claims upon the Vizier for the current year is still unprovided for: similar instances, however, of gross neglect and inattention on the part of the minister, have, during the last months, so often occurred, that they no longer excite my surprize, though, being always in contempt of the injunctions, and in direct opposition to the wishes, of the honourable Governor General, as expressed in his instructions to me, they are certainly not less reprehensible because multiplied and repeated.

In conclusion, permit me to solicit your attention to the style of the enclosed letter. You will be pleased to observe, gentlemen, that it was addressed to me by the Nabob, when all communication between him and Hyder Beg Cawn was cut off. Compared with the representations heretofore

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heretofore tranfmitted to the Honourable Board on my fubject, by his Highnefs, conjointly with his Minifter, it exhibits the ftrongeft contraft; and hence, if other evidence were wanting to prove the fact, leads irrefiftably to a prefumption, that in the compofition of thofe reprefentations he was fchooled and commanded—Efcaped for a moment from the tyrannic influence which had fo often compelled him to the moft difhonourable compliances, we hear him fpeaking the language of feeling and gratitude for the obligations conferred upon him. Such language and fuch fentiments are worthy of his Highnefs; and if at any time he deviates from them, my refpect for him difpofes me to believe it is becaufe he dares not do otherwife. The time, I truft, will come, when the unhappy Prince fhall be finally reftored to the liberty of fpeech: I am confident he will employ it in the caufe of truth and innocence, which I can with equal certainty affirm is not the caufe of Hyder Beg Cawn.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
1ft November, 1783. Refident at the Vizier's Court.

Tranflation of a Letter from Mr. Briftow to his Highnefs the Vizier, dated 30th Zekada 1191, or 28th October 1783.

After the ufual compliments,

I this day received a meffage from Huffen Reza Cawn, through Roy Suruge Bawa, that the tumult of the Turkfowars was fettled; a little afterwards I heard that they were upon the point of commencing an attack. Since there is no feparation and diftinction between your Highnefs and the Honourable Company, and my attachment to you is of a long ftanding, I hope therefore that if there is the leaft danger, you will confider that I am ready to devote my life in your Highnefs's defence; or if by my mediation the tumult could be fettled, I am with my heart and foul ready to attend your commands.

His Highnefs's anfwer—Of the fame date.

I have received your letter, that if the mutiny of the Turkfowars was not fuppreffed, you were ready, &c.

Your friendfhip and efteem for me is more ftrongly impreffed upon my heart than you can exprefs it in words; and I know that we only poffefs one foul in two bodies.—I will inftantly advife you what is neceffary to be done. By the bleffing of God this tumult will be fuppreffed.

A true Tranflation.

(Signed) W. COWPER, Affiftant.

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To Edward Hay, Esquire, Sub Secretary.

I am favoured with your letter of the 1st ultimo, conveying the orders of the honourable Governor General and Council, directing me to furnish a particular account, specifying the amount actually paid to the Begums at Fyzabad, since, the resumption of their Jaghyres took effect in 1781; the sum actually due to them; and whether the payments to them have been made through me.

As it will be some days before I shall be able to obtain the accounts required by the board, you will oblige me in representing this circumstance, that the delay may not be imputed to neglect or inattention to their command.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
3d November 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Under date the 5th and 23d ultimo, I had the honour to transmit you copies of my correspondence with Colonel Sir John Cumming, concerning Mr. M'Lean's losses; and the enclosed papers, which I take the liberty to forward you, No. 1 and 2, explain the subsequent measures which have been followed; from which it will appear, that Colonel Cumming's efforts to apprehend any of the offenders have failed, and I must renew my solicitations to the Vizier for justice to Mr. Mac Lean.

My address of the 24th ultimo will have noticed to you the difficulty under which Colonel Cumming labours in providing the supplies of his camp. I have now the honour to forward you No. 3, copies of my correspondence with Colonel Cumming, and am much concerned at the distress suffered by the troops, to relieve which the most peremptory orders have been issued by his Highness to his Aumils, who, as will appear by Colonel Cumming's representations, have not rendered him the least assistance.—I cannot on my part do more than obtain a repetition of those orders, and recommend to the Vizier to confirm the authority already granted to Colonel Cumming, to act in his discretion upon emergency.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
9th November 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming; dated 21st October 1783.

In consequence of your letter of the 12th, I applied to his Highness the Vizier, to grant Mr. Mac Lean redress, by

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by compelling Buſſout Roy to make reſtitution for the loſs ſuſtained, and likewiſe diſmiſs him from the office of Naib of the diſtrict of Sandy Pauly.—In reply the miniſter tranſmitted me letters from Buſſout Roy and Jaoo Lloll, copies of which I encloſe for your information. From a repreſentation preſented to me by Mr. Mac Lean, and your ſentiments upon the ſubject, the colluſion between the Aumils and Zemindars is in my opinion clearly proved; but before I repeat my application to the Vizier, I have deſired Mr. Mac Lean to furniſh me with the evidences of ſuch perſons as have attended him to Lucknow, and were witneſſes to the Aumil's conduct. The ill-treatment this gentleman has received, and the bad conſequences attending it, if the offenders ſhould paſs with impunity, make me extremely anxious to aſcertain the circumſtances minutely, and inſiſt upon that redreſs which I may juſtly claim for Mr. Mac Lean. You will oblige me therefore, on peruſal of Buſſout Roy's and Jaoo Lloll's letters, to favour me with any obſervations which may occur to you on this ſubject.

Sir John Cumming in Reply; dated Futty Ghur, 23d October 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 21ſt inſtant, incloſing copy of Buſſout Roy's Arzee to Hyder Beg Cawn.

I do not obſerve any miſrepreſentation of facts, ſo far as Buſſout Roy has thought fit to ſtate them, but he has ſuppreſſed ſome parts of the truth. When the Vizier's order for puniſhing the rebellious people in the Paulie diſtrict arrived, I wrote to Buſſout Roy, deſiring he would come hither in perſon, or ſend a confidential Vackeel, to concert means for effectually chaſtiſing the offenders. He conſented to neither propoſal; a copy of his letter, containing his excuſe, was tranſmitted to you with my letter, of the 12th inſtant. The circumſtances of his declining to ſend a Vackeel, excited in me a ſuſpicion of his inſincerity, which was confirmed the next morning by Mr. Mac Lean, who communicated to me the contents of a letter he had juſt received from his ſervants at Paulee. It ſtated that the inhabitants, in conſequence of a meſſage brought by Buſſout Roy's Hircarrahs, had releaſed the boats, and given back all the timber, &c. which they had away. I obſerve that Buſſout Roy acknowledges having ſent his Hircarrahs, denouncing threats of vengeance againſt the people of Paulee, if they did not give up poſſeſſion of Mr. Mac Lean's boats; and that they, through fear of the conſequences, gave them up accordingly. This is the thing I complain of: It was the notice he gave of the

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the intended chastisement that rendered it impossible to be carried into execution; and if the people of Paulee were so obedient to the orders of Bussout Roy on this occasion, how came it that, when I wrote to him before, desiring he would cause the same boats to be released, that he had no influence over them. Mr. Mac Lean at that time informed me that Bussout Roy gave Purwannahs in consequence of my letter, and that the Paulee men to whom they were addressed tore them to pieces. On this and every other occasion Bussout Roy has pleaded his inability to enforce obedience to his orders; yet the moment he saw a prospect of doing it, he hastened to put the offenders upon their guard, by informing them of their danger. As I have never interfered in any degree with the Aumils, it is not in my power to bring direct proof of any of their transactions, but in the present instance there are so many circumstances combining to prove that Bussout Roy could have released the boats sooner, if he had been so inclined, and that he did not wish the offenders should be punished, as to leave no room for doubt, even in the most scrupulous mind. However, to prove, beyond the power of contradiction, whether Bussout Roy be serious in his wish to punish the rebellious people in that neighbourhood, I will, if you approve, send over a regiment to his assistance. If he apprehends the offenders, and delivers them over to justice, it will be a mark of his own innocence; on the contrary, if he be negligent, there will be no longer an excuse left him. I hope there will be no occasion for a repetition of the Vizier's order: That I already have will suffice, and if you approve, I will send a regiment immediately on that service.

Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow; dated 24th October 1783.

I wrote you yesterday, in answer to your letter respecting Bussout Roy, upon a supposition that you will not disapprove of the experiment I proposed for ascertaining the sincerity of his intention, with regard to chastising the people of Paulee; I shall order a regiment to cross the river on the 26th instant, they shall remain on this side till your sentiments are known: If you approve, the sudden march of the regiment may possibility surprize the offenders before their well-wishers may have time to forewarn them of their danger, as Bussout Roy can collect, according to his own account, 200 horse, it will be in his power to apprehend many of the fugitives. His activity on this occasion, will be the best proof he can give of his innocence.

I must request you will lose no time in answering this letter, as expedition only can secure success.

Colonel

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Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Briſtow; dated 28th October 1783.

I wrote you the 24th inſtant, informing you of my intention to ſend a regiment croſs the river, in order to be in readineſs to aſſiſt Buſſout Roy in puniſhing the inhabitants of Paulee. The regiment croſſed the 26th, and is now waiting your approbation. I muſt beg leave to be favoured with your ſentiments by return of the dawk, that the troops may be recalled, if not to be employed.

Mr. Briſtow to Colonel Sir John Cumming; dated 28th October 1783.

I am favoured with your letters of the 23d and 24th inſtant: I entirely concur in your opinion of Buſſout Roy's conduct, and likewiſe that the plan you propoſe is the moſt eligible that can be adopted on the preſent occaſion; as you have already the Vizier's orders, nothing further is neceſſary than to proceed in the manner appearing to you moſt expedient.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Briſtow; dated 30th October 1783.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 28th inſtant, in conſequence of which I have directed Captain Hilliard to proceed with his regiment immediately on the propoſed ſervice. A copy of his inſtructions, together with a copy of my letter to Buſſout Roy, accompany this. Whatever perſons may be apprehended, I will ſend under an eſcort to Lucknow, in order that they may receive puniſhments adequate to their offences.

To Captain John Hilliard, commanding a Detachment.

Sir,

You will be pleaſed to march, with the detachment under your command, to Paulee, and there to aſſiſt Rajah Buſſout Roy in apprehending certain refractory Zemindars, and others, whom the aforeſaid Rajah, or his Vakeel, will point out to you. Should reſiſtance be made, you will make uſe of the force under your command to compel ſubmiſſion. You are not to march more than three or four coſs in purſuit of the fugitives, or on any other occaſion beyond Paulee, without further orders.

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING, Colonel.

Futty Gur,
30th October, 1783.

Mr.

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Mr. Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated 1st November, 1783.

I have been honoured with your letter of the 30th, and must beg the favour of you not to send the prisoners to Lucknow, as I am of opinion, that the matter can much better be tried at Furruckabad, being nearer the spot, and where, in case of conviction, an example will be attended with better effect. The matter may either be submitted to the examination of a board of officers, the Cauzy or official person at Furruckabad, or a deputation from the Vizier.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated 8th November, 1783.

The regiment sent to the assistance of Bussout Roy having marched to Paulee, without being able to apprehend any one of the offenders, who, I am told, have escaped into the Jungles.

True copies and extracts.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated Futty Ghur, 30th October, 1783.

When this service is executed, if you have no objection, I will order one battalion of the same regiment to return by way of Ranonge. Almass's Naib has not paid the least attention to the orders he received from his master, and obstinately perseveres in refusing the Bungars of Camp permission to purchase grain in his district. The presence of a military force may perhaps awe him into a compliance with our demands; and if he be given to understand that a regiment will be stationed near him, unless he supply us regularly with grain, he will probably engage to do it.

The Sezawul of Furruckabad has been equally inattentive to the orders of the Vizier; I have therefore been under the necessity of writing him a menacing letter, though I cannot say that I expect it will be productive of any good effect.—Nothing but very strong measures will induce the Aumils to obey the Vizier's orders; and I much fear it will not be possible for the troops to subsist, unless the infliction of some exemplary punishment on the officers of Government compel them to a performance of their duty.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated Lucknow, 4th November, 1783.

The difficulty of procuring grain encreasing every day, I am under the necessity of addressing you again on the subject,

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ject, with a request that you will present the inclosed to his Excellency the Vizier. I have repeatedly informed you that the Aumils pay no attention to the orders of Government; and that no one of those to whom his Excellency's purwannah's have been sent, has furnished the camp with any kind of grain whatever. Hitherto I have, with great difficulty, supported the troops from the repositories of grain at Furruckabad, but that resource is now at an end. The only possible means of subsistence is that I have stated in my letter to his Excellency, that is, to seize on some repository of grain, within 20 or 30 coss of this place, and to let the owners employ their own servants in retailing it out at a price fixed by the Vizier. The camp banyars should pay ready money for every maund they receive, nor should the smallest quantity be disposed of to any but the people of our camp, except so much as served for the consumption of the natives of the place where the repository was found: Unless my informations greatly deceive me, there are many villages in which there are 2 or 3 lacks of maunds of different kinds of grain, which the owners keep back from market with a view of inhancing the price. There cannot be the least doubt of a combination subsisting between the Aumils and the merchants, to keep up the exorbitant price of grain; and without the interference of the Government the most dreadful consequences are to be apprehended from it.

If you approve the proposal I have submitted to the Vizier, let me request that the order authorizing me to carry it into execution, may be express and positive. It is true, I have several letters from his Excellency and yourself, in which there is an implied authority to compel the Aumils to furnish our camp with provisions; but as the means of compulsion are not pointed out, and as every act of violence would furnish matter of complaint, and the circumstances might be grossly misrepresented, I am unwilling to take any step, without having obtained the previous assent of his Excellency.

Should this mode of procuring supplies be disapproved, I must request you will represent to his Excellency the absolute impossibility of the troops being subsisted longer by any endeavours of mine, and that I am ready to pursue any other measure he may be pleased to direct; all I desire is, that no disturbance may happen on account of want of provisions. Let me request that no time may be lost in answering this letter.

Translation

Translation of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming, to his Highness the Vizier.

After the usual compliments.

Your Highness's purwannahs have been repeatedly issued to the Aumils of every district, directing them to supply the Futty Ghur camp with grain; but none has arrived, and they have been of no effect. The distress for necessaries of life is now so great, that I cannot express it. I understand that the Phousdars, Merchants, and Zemindars, have lacks of maunds hoarded in their granaries, but do not expose it to sale, with a view of enhancing the price. If I could obtain your Highness's permission, I would send troops, and seize a granary, and oblige the proprietors to appoint a creditable agent to the charge of it. The camp Banyars, to make their purchases of him, pay the assize your Highness may fix, and not a hubba shall be taken without payment being made.—No oppression shall be committed I see no other means than this of subsisting the troops. Until now, grain has been procured from the inhabitants of Furruckabad with the utmost difficulty, and after the most minute search, and now there is none to be had there. Whatever your Highness may direct in this business shall be executed.

Mr Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated 8th November, 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 4th instant, and immediately transmitted your address to his Highness.—This day the acting Minister waited upon me with the Vizier's commands, and repeated his Highness's professions of being ready to exert his authority in furnishing supplies for the troops under your command. On considering the orders issued by the Aumils, and the little attention shewn to them, I am confirmed in the opinion I have already given, that the execution must rest with yourself. The Minister informed me, in the Vizier's name, that it was left in your direction to exert force in suppling the troops when the emergency required it. The best means which occurred to him was to make use of the intelligence which you had obtained of places where grain is collected in any quantity, and as your necessities might require, compel the proprietors to give the Banyars of your camp a preference of purchase at the fair price: in the last resort to use compulsion with the Aumils. On this head, caution in regard to Almass Ally Cawn (with whose extrarordinary situation with respect to the Vizier's government you are acquainted) is necessary. This will, I hope, suffice for a sufficient expla-

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nation of the line of conduct the Vizier wishes you to follow, until such time as I can obtain his written instructions.

True extracts, copies, and translations,
(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Attorney to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I take the liberty of inclosing a letter I had the honour to receive from the Honourable Governor General.

It is not more my duty than it has always been my inclination to obey, and as far as in me lies, chearfully to execute every lawful command coming to me from so high and respectable an authority as that of the first Member of your Government; with extreme regret, therefore, I see myself, in the present instance, reduced to the disagreeable necessity either of departing from the line of unqualified submission to the will of the Honourable Governor General, or of transgressing the orders and intentions of the Board, expressly and unequivocally notified to me in their letter of the 3d March, 1783. I cannot, I most humbly with all deference conceive, "cease to act under my present instructions," so long as the ordinance contained in that letter, enjoining me to make them my constant guide, shall continue in full force. I dare not even suppose that those instructions, though I received them through the Honourable the Governor General, can be annihilated and done away by any authority, save that of the Board. If, therefore, I continue to regulate my conduct by them as heretofore, until I can be favoured with your determination, I trust my resolution will not be attributed to any contempt of the Honourable Governor General's orders, to whose place and person I look up with the truest reverence and respect, but to a conviction, that in acting otherwise I should act wrong. In the mean time, and in obedience to the Honourable the Governor General's further injunctions to me, that I should "not presume in future, in any instance whatsoever, to vouch my instructions as an authority from him," when I may hereafter have occasion to notice them in my communications with his Highness the Nabob, his Ministers, or otherwise, I shall be careful to speak of them as an authority derived from the Board at large, instead of introducing the name of the Honourable Governor General only, as, conformable to all former usage, hath hitherto been my practice.

For the rest, Gentlemen, as to the best of my understanding I have judged of, so with the most indefatigable zeal I have endeavoured to execute your intentions. Diffident of my own abilities, I hoped I had precluded the possibility

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bility of any mischief resulting from a false interpretation of those intentions, by a timely and previous communication of all my plans to the Honourable Governor General, thus leaving them, as he had recommended, still open to his correction. If to these numerous and long unnoticed references I have received at last, for all answer, the harshest condemnation of my conduct; if, still wishing and striving to do right, I am now told that I have always and wilfully done wrong, I can read this unexpected and afflicting sentence with less emotion, as I am unconscious of having deserved it.—I presume to hope, from the candour and justice of the Honourable Governor General, that particular examples of the offences which have unhappily subjected me to his displeasure, will be hereafter pointed out to me: I shall then, I trust, find it no difficult task to prove the innocence which now supports me, and to convince the Board, that in all my management at Owde, I have never once intentionally neglected or swerved from my duty.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, the 10th Nov. 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from the Honourable Governor General to Mr. Bristow, dated Fort William, 28th October, 1783.

As you have thought fit to ground your acts at Lucknow on the instructions which I gave you for your conduct, although you have perverted the sense of those instructions in every application of them, and have totally neglected to obey their obvious and intended meaning; I do therefore formally require, that you do, immediately on the receipt of this letter, cease to act, or to pretend to act, under those instructions, or to presume in future, in any instance whatsoever, to vouch them as an authority from me, as I do hereby declare they are no longer my instructions.

I am, &c.

A true copy. (Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.
(Signed) Wm. Cowper, Asst.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, dated 3d March, 1783.

To Mr. Bristow, Resident at Owde.

We approve very much of the conduct which you have observed respecting the rebellious Zemindars, and the means which you inform us you had recommended to the Vizier for

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for quieting the disorders and restoring the peace of this country; on this occasion we have only to recommend the strictest attention to the instructions which you have received from the Governor General, and to desire that you will make them your constant guide.

A true extract.

(Signed) Wm. COWPER, Asst.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I had the honour of addressing you the 30th of August, the 4th and 14th of October last, relative to Almass Ally Cawn, acquainting you with my apprehensions that it was the intention of the Minister to leave that Aumil still in possession of all the districts then under his management.—A measure than which none could be more unwise and dangerous, or more repugnant to the ideas and wishes of the Honourable Board, as experience in the one case, and my instructions in the other, clearly demonstrated. In waiting the result of this reference, the Honourable Company's demands upon his Excellency the Vizier for the current year came under consideration, and I applied to his Highness, requesting that the countries farmed by Almass, and stated by the Minister at *a rent roll of forty-eight lacks ninety-four thousand three hundred and seven rupees* might, in liquidation of it, and among others be granted me in assignment.

My reasons for this application, together with the Nabob's, or rather Hyder Beg Cawn's objection to it, I had the honour to submit for your decision in my address of the 14th ultimo, and I am the more anxious to be favoured with your commands, since without them (as I have already informed the Honourable Board) I cannot now promise myself that my applications to the Minister on the subject of the assignments, or indeed on any other subject, will aught avail. It cannot be matter of surprize that in his present situation Almass should adopt any conduct, or be prompt to make any concessions, at the bidding of Hyder Beg Cawn. As I understand this influence had been exerted by the Minister to prevail upon him to make an advance of a large sum to the Nabob, I some time ago warned Almass, whilst the question of his collections remained undecided, against the approbation of any part of them without my privity and consent. He assured me of his acquiescence.—*If however my information be good (and I believe it so) some lacks have already been paid by him to his Highness*; and I am the more confirmed in this belief, from the unusual backwardness Almass has shewn in the discharge of his first kists, and the unsatisfactory reasons he has assigned for the delay. I have the honour to inclose my correspondence

dence with him respecting it. This, Gentlemen, is yet an additional motive with me to solicit your present decision, otherwise more of this resource may be dissipated, which, if the whole was granted in assignment to the Honourable Company, and completely collected, would still, as the accompanying statements will explain, leave a very heavy balance of this year's claim unprovided for by the Vizier.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
11th November, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Ilmas Ally Khan, dated 21st Zeccaud, 1197.

I have received the lack of rupees you sent. I am now to observe to you, that the kist of Khaor is elapsed, and that of Kautick arrived. Agreeably to the statement as delivered me by the Minister Hyder Beg Khan, the demand upon you, account your districts, for the current year, amounts to 48,98,000. Three lacks is already due for the kist of Khaor, the demand for Cautick is four more. I am in the greatest want of money, I must therefore beg you you will write to your agents, directing them to furnish the six lacks for these two kists.

Ilmaus Ally Khan in Reply, dated . . .

I have been honoured with, and received infinite pleasure from your letter, requiring payment of the kists of Kouar and Cautick You, sir, are well acquainted with my obedience, fidelity, attachment and zeal, from the first hour of my appointment as Aumil, to the present time: during a course of years and in the payment of lacks of rupees, I have never failed in a single instance discharging, whilst it was in my power so to discharge them, my monthly payments in advance. You are well informed of the state of the country this year, arising from the failure of the periodical rains; notwithstanding my diligence and coercions I am unable to collect enough even to satisfy the soldiery, many of whom, both horses and foot, are dying of hunger in this season of famine. Having before represented these matters in person to you, I arrived here, that I might, as I had done in other places, attend the construction of wells, superintend the cultivation of the district, and contribute, by my presence, to the care and encouragement of the ryots. Now that I have received your letter to the purport herein above-mentioned it has greatly encreased my distress and perplexity. This year, the collections being so difficult, it will be impossible, without your countenance and favour, to fulfil my engagements, or preserve my honour;—possessing those, as formerly

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merly, nothing shall be wanting on my part, I will fulfill my duty to the utmost. If you cannot rely upon me, I beg you will appoint an Aumeen to take an account of the receipts and to transmit to Lucknow such balance as, after deducting the pay of the troops, may remain.

A true translation.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Colonel Morgan having applied to me for assistance in furnishing supplies for the 2d brigade, on its march into the Honourable Company's provinces, I am concerned at informing you the distress the troops are likely to suffer; As the measures which have been in consequence followed are explained in the accompanying paper, which I have the honour to enclose, I beg leave to refer you to it for the particulars; and to assure you I shall neglect no means in my power of obtaining supplies, with the least detriment to the country, though I am very apprehensive it will be impossible, except by compulsion upon the proprietors of the grain at the different gunges in the route of the army.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
14th November, 1783, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel James Morgan to Mr. Bristow, dated 8th November, 1783.

From a conference I have had with Ishmael Beg concerning the supplying the troops under my command with grain, on their march through the districts about Allahabad, together with the great difficulty there is at present in subsisting the troops, I find there is an absolute necessity to make this public application to you for your assistance, that I may not suffer distress, or be impeded on my march through those districts. Captain Dennis's battalion, that is now at Allahabad, may, if you think proper, be employed in such manner as you may think most adviseable, and I will give him orders to that purport. As the two brigades will meet at that place, I could wish that no time may be lost in procuring a sufficient supply: An estimate of the quantity that will be necessary on my part shall be sent you soon as possible. I have wrote twice to the Commander in Chief on the subject of the scarcity, before I came to represent it to you.

Mr.

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Mr. Briſtow to Colonel James Morgan, dated 8th November 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of this date, and think you ought by all means to iſſue orders to Captain Dennis to poſtpone his March, that he may be employed on the ſervice of the ſupplies. Unleſs timely precautions are taken, the troops will in all likelihood ſuffer great diſtreſs: Poſſibly a ſufficient quantity for both brigades cannot be had, except by the moſt violent exertions of power, and very great interruption to the revenue, and the peace of the country.—I ſhall to-morrow addreſs the Vizier on the ſubject, and communicate his commands to you.

Mr. Briſtow to Captain Dennis, dated 9th November 1783.

I incloſe the copy of a letter from Colonel Morgan to myſelf, and am to requeſt you will furniſh me with ſuch information as may have come to your knowledge concerning the preſent ſtate of the province of Allahabad, in regard to the ſcarcity, and the beſt means which occur, in your opinion, for the ſupply of grain, and the quantity you think could be collected by the 25th of next month, the period at which it is probable the two brigades may meet at Allahabad.

Captain Dennis to Mr. Briſtow, dated 10th November 1783

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inſtant, encloſing the copy of one from Colonel Morgan, and beg leave to acquaint you, that the ſcarcity of proviſions throughout the province of Allahabad became very general. Prior to my quitting that part of the country diſtreſs was clearly pictured in the countenance of almoſt every individual; and the poorer ſort of people were ſeen daily in the plains ſweeping together the looſe earth, from which they extracted the ſeed of graſs and other wild plants for their ſubſiſtence.

From the very high rate corn is now ſelling at in the city of Allahabad, the ſcarcity of that article muſt be urgent, and that a ſufficient ſupply for two brigades cannot be procured from that province.

I have received information of their being quantities of grain in the diſtricts Byragur and Lutchieſgur, contiguous to the Allahabad province; and it is my opinion that an adequate ſupply for the troops may be provided by the period you have fixed, by marching a force into the above diſtricts, and compelling the Banyars to carry their grain to Allahabad to be diſpoſed of.

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Tranflation of a Letter from Ifmael Beg, Subadar of Allahabad, to Mr. Briftow: Received 11th November 1783.

You have been pleafed to acquaint me, that the brigade would be relieved at Allahabad, and a large quantity of grain and other neceffaries would be required for their fubfiftence. I fhall, in the following reprefentation, in obedience to Colonel Morgan and your commands, ftate every particular; for as I have ferved the Honourable Company night and day for twenty years, by the grace of God, the Englifh gentlemen have experienced my zeal, and beftowed honour and confideration on me. It is impoffible I fhould ever fwerve from my attachment.

The province of Allahabad is in the high road, and a place of general refort. The troops have every year paffed, and been amply fupplied. The camp Banyars on croffing the river were accuftomed to go into the interior parts of the country, and bring grain and other articles without difficulty. A few merchants, inhabitants of the province, willingly brought the grain for fale to the town of Allahabad, and for fuch extraordinary quantities required for troops paffing through the country as could not be fupplied by them, the Aumils difpatched agents to various quarters, and there was never any complaints. In times of plenty there was no occafion for force in fupplying the army, the attention and affiduity of the Aumils were alone fufficient; but grain is now at ten and twelve feer a rupee at Allahahabad, and oftentimes the fhops are fhut up for want of it. The people are deferting the country, and ready to ftarve; and though it is the feafon of cultivating the rubby harveft, owing to the drought, and there not being even feed to be had, it is elapfing. Having advanced Tuckavy, and encouraged the Ryots to conftruct wells, in the place of one hundred they are perhaps able to water only fifteen or or twenty Bigahs, but even for that fmall fpace they cannot find feed, and in every place their groans and lamentations reach the Heavens. If troops fhould be detached from the brigade in fearch of grain into the interior parts of the country, the few remaining ryots will defert the Bundlecund, where it is cheaper, and in that cafe I cannot anfwer for the confequences.

I beg leave to ftate what occurs, in my humble opinion, upon this fubject. Firft, Colonel Morgan may order Captain Dennis to remain in the province of Allahabad, where he has been ftationed for a year paft, and has local knowledge. The troops under his command have never been known to commit any act of violence againft the inhabitants; and it is to his ability and friendfhip I may attribute the profperity of my country. It is therefore

better

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better for that gentleman and me to set off for Allahabad, and by mild means collect as much grain as we can from the Aumils on the borders of Bundlecund, with whom Captain Dennis and I have held, and do still hold, an intercourse. Second, In the Purgunnahs of Mongerah, Gopy Gunge, and Muchleshhehur, in the Benares district, there are many wealthy Beoparies, Zemindars, and merchants, who buy the grain in the first instance, and sell it when the assize may suit them. From these places it is probable the proprietors themselves may be induced to bring it, or Beoparies may be sent there to make purchases. Mr. Fowke should also issue orders to the Aumils to grant their assistance.

Third, The Purgunnah of Kyragur formerly comprehended a part of the province of Allahabad, and was rented for a certain time by Bulwant Sing and Chyte Sing, and is now under Lolloodut Sing, and within his Highness's dominion. During the troubles with Chyte Sing many Zemindars, Talookdars, Merchants, and Beoparies, and wealthy inhabitants, from every quarter, as well from the Company's territories as from Allahabad, took refuge there. From that time to this, Lolloodut Sing has detained them, and does not permit the merchants and ryots to return to their native dwellings, and from compulsion they enter into commercial engagements. Though these people possess large quantities of grain, Loll Oodut Sing prevents their exposing it. The borders of that Purgunnah are only seven coss from Allahabad, and Loll Oodut Sing has lately erected a strong fort at Banda, an ancient Talook on a hill, and has cast guns, and does still continue to do so for its defence. I can place no reliance on his willingly furnishing grain, therefore the best advice I can give in respect to him is, that Captain Dennis should encamp in the Kyragur district, near the banks of the Ganges, and the Nuddy Eunees. Let Captain Dennis be furnished with orders from the Vizier to Loll Oodut Sing, to assist in the supplies; and if he yields obedience it is well, if not, let the Captain be then instructed to seize grain wherever he discovers any hoards, and dispatch it to camp. I also will exert my endeavours in this business with Captain Dennis, as far as lays in my power.

Fourth, As sufficient carriage is not to be had for the transportation of the necessary quantities of grain in the province of Allahabad, it would be adviseable for his Highness to send two thousand bullocks there before the brigade arrives, in order that it may be transported and kept ready at that place. Colonel Morgan may likewise dispatch for the same purpose as many of the bullocks of his bazar as can be spared.

Copy

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Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Francis Fowke Esquire, Resident at Benares; dated 13th November 1783.

Having been called upon by Colonel Morgan for assistance in furnishing supplies for the brigade on its march into the provinces, I find myself under the necessity of addressing you on the subject. The scarcity in the Vizier's dominions will render it a very difficult matter to furnish the grain, required for the subsistence of the two brigades, when they met at Allahabad; and as Mongura, and Gopy Gunge, and Muchleshehur, have been pointed out to me as places where it is to be had, and as conveniently situated for the route which the army will take, I think it proper to give you timely notice of the distress the troops may suffer, unless you can assist in furnishing supplies.

Captain Dennis and Ismael Beg, the Subadar of Allahabad, were directed to collect all the grain that can be had in that province and the neighbouring countries, and I must refer you for the particulars of the quantity, and places at which it is required, to Captain Dennis, who has instructions for his conduct, both from the Vizier and Colonel Morgan.

I shall inform Colonel Ironside of the scarcity, and desire he will, before he enters the Vizier's dominions, apply to you for assistance, and give the necessary instructions to Captain Dennis.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel Morgan, dated 13th November 1783.

Ismael Beg is doubtful if grain can be procured in those quantities which are necessary, unless an advance of money be made by the proprietors, to be repaid upon the sale of it to the troops: Upon this head I could give him no answer, and must wait until I receive your sentiments, before I can assent, not being a judge of the custom in these cases, or the propriety of his requisition. Agreeably to my letter to Captain Dennis, of which I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy, I must request you will issue the necessary orders, concerning the disposition of the supplies and other matters which may occur to you: the acting minister was of opinion, that by giving encouragement to Sewajee Sing * he would have been able to have furnished the supplies completely to the frontiers of the Vizier's dominions; but if I did not misunderstand the actual state of the case, you have followed measures to provide the army with grain, as far as Allahabad, after which you must depend on assistance from the Vizier's Aumils and the

* *The Vizier's Cutwal at Cawnpore.*

districts

districts of Benares; at all events Sewanjee Sing is furnished with Perwannahs, which may be made use of in any way you deem expedient for the good of the service; and I shall likewise be very happy to afford my assistance in any other steps you may think it necessary to take. Captain Dennis is furnished with the Vizier's purwannahs to the Aumils in the neighbourhood of Allahabad, directing their zealous support in the business upon which he is employed.

The Resident has also written to Colonel Ironside, and enclosed copies of every paper which could give him any information respecting the scarcity of grain in the Vizier's dominions.

True copies, extract, and translation,

(Signed) J. NEAVE,

Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter, from his Highness the Nabob Vizier.

From the Nabob Vizier: Received 6th November, 1783.

Usual Introduction.

The authority and influence of the Jagheerdars in the Jageer districts, were formerly the causes of some disorders in those of government; and the Aumils of the latter were wont to make complaints. It had become an object with me also to reduce the Jageers to their original value; moreover, during the disturbances at Benares, I had entertained suspicions of the fidelity of some of the Jagheerdars, and for the preceding reasons, when at Chunargur, I proposed the sequestration of my grandmother's and mother's Jagheers, and of those of the Nabob Saulur Jung, and others of my relations and connections; and on my return to the Soubah of Oude I carried the measure into execution. In the course of the two years that their Jagheers have been sequestered (for the present is the third year of their sequestration) the motives to that measure have been answered, and my doubts fully satisfied; there are none now who will presume to disobey my will; and the distresses which they individually suffer are beyond description, and on this account it is now my wish to put my grandmother, my mother, the Nabob Saulur Jung, and others of my relations, agreeably to the accompanying list, again in possession of their Jageers. I therefore request that you will write to Mr. Bristow not to oppose the measures, but to allow them to be delivered up.

Concludes as usual.

List

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List of Jageers accompanying the preceding Letter.

Jagheers, and Names of Jageerdars, as follow:

Jageer of my grandmother.
Jageer of my mother.
Jageer of the Nabob Saulaur Jung.
Jageer of the sons and family of the late Nabob Iftikhaur u Dowla, Meerza Alli Cawn.
Jageer of the Nabob Immaum u' Deen.
Jageer of the sons of Bund Alli Khaun.
Jageer of the Nabob Muddaur u' Dowla.

The Governor General is unwilling, at this time, to propose any orders in consequence of the preceding letters and papers, rather expecting that the other Members of the Board will suggest what may be proper to be written to Mr. Bristow in reply to his letters, and upon the other subject of the demands of the Bankers for their loan, and the Nabob's requisition for the permission of the Board to restore the Jagheers of the Begums and his other relations; but he desires that Mr. Bristow's letter of the 1st November may be transmitted a number in each of the packets now under dispatch to the Court of Directors, and referred to their particular attention.

Upon this, and the other subjects of these papers, the Governor General will take some future occasion of more leisure to record his sentiments.

Agreed, That Mr. Bristow's letter of the 1st November be transmitted a number in each of the packets now under dispatch to the Honourable Court of Directors, and referred to their particular attention.

Extract of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 25th November, 1783.

Para. 10. We have received a letter from Mr. Bristow since the dispatch of our last letter to your Honourable Court, dated the 1st of this month, a copy of which we have the honour to transmit for your perusal, and we beg leave to refer it to your particular attention.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 10th December, 1783.

The following letter, and its enclosures, having been received from Colonel James Morgan, they were circulated on the 8th instant, and returned, with the resolution which

is

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is entered after them: The same was immediately communicated by the Secretary to the Committee of Grain.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you copies of the letters that have passed upon the subject of supplying grain to the troops under my command, by them you will perceive that I have not left any thing in my power undone to that effect.

I have also sent copies of these papers to the Commander in Chief, whom I addressed before repeatedly on the subject.

Cawnpore, I have the honour, &c.
15th Nov. 1783. JAS. MORGAN,
Col. commanding 2d Brigade.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Captain Robert Dennis, commanding at Allahabad, dated Lucknow, 15th November, 1783.

I have transmitted a copy of your Letter of the 10th instant, as well as one I received from Ismael Beg, to Colonel Morgan, for his information, and requested he would furnish you with proper instructions concerning the quantity of grain, and the stations at which it will be required; as also on all other which may occur to him. I forward you a letter to Mr. Fowke, for your information, and request you will attend to the contents of it.

You are already furnished with purwannahs to the Subahdar of Allahabad, and the Aumils of the neighbouring countries. If more explicit orders should be required, I request you will give me information, that I may make timely application to his Highness.

A true copy.
J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I am favoured with your letter of the 12th instant, and now have the pleasure to enclose you a copy and translation of letters I have received from Captain Dennis and Ismael Beg, from which it will appear the scarcity has affected the province of Allahabad in a very alarming degree. In consequence of these letters, I have addressed Mr. Fowke, pointing out the places in the Benares district where grain is to be procured, and requested his assistance in supplying the troops; copy I take the liberty to enclose.

Ismael Beg is doubtful if grain can be procured in those quantities which are necessary, unless an advance of money be

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be made to the proprietors, to be repaid upon the sale of it to the troops. Upon this head I could give him no answer, and must wait until I receive your sentiments, before I can assent, not being a judge of the custom in these cases, or the propriety of his requisitions. Agreeably to my letter to Captain Dennis, of which I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy, I must request you will issue the necessary orders concerning the disposition of the supplies, and other matters which may occur to you. The acting minister was of opinion, that by giving encouragement to Sewajee Sing, he would have been able to have furnished the supplies completely to the frontiers of the Vizier's dominions; but if I did not understand the actual state of the case, you have followed measures to provide the army with grain so far as Allahabad, after which you must depend for assistance on the Vizier's Aumils, and the district of Benares. At all events, Sewajee Sing is furnished with perwannahs which may be made use of in any way you may deem expedient for the good of the service; and I shall likewise be very happy to afford my assistance in any other steps you may think it necessary to take. Captain Dennis is furnished with the Vizier's purwannahs to the Aumils in the neighbourhood of Allahabad, directing their zealous support in the business upon which he is employed. I have addressed Colonel Ironside concerning the relief of Major Lumsdain's battalion, as he passes Allahabad.

Lucknow, 13th Nov. 1783.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN BRISTOW,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy,
H. Lloyd,
Secy.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letter of the 13th instant, and its enclosures, which I shall transmit to the commander in chief, and to the board. Ismael Beg must know that it has ever been an established custom of Indostan for collectors of districts and revenue officers to be answerable that grain, sufficient for an army or detachment, should be collected by their Cutwals, Chowdries, Bunyahs, &c. ready at the principal places, without any public advance, expence, or loss, on timely notice being previously given to them for that purpose. Luttehpoor and Allahabad are the two chief places where it will be absolutely necessary that a stock should be ready collected at, for the subsistence of both brigades. At the latter there ought to be the most considerable quantity, as the two brigades are directed to meet there, and they may be near each other for some days.

Ismael

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Iſmael Beg and the collectors may reſt aſſured that it ſhall be my part to take care, that whatever grain may be delivered ſhall duly and properly be paid for on receipt by the troops.

I would not, was I empowered (which I am not) authorize any advance of money. All that I deſire is to have the current ſubſiſtence of the troops and camp followers prepared for them by the Chowdries, Byparries, &c. during the time they paſs through the Vizier's territories. I have neither occaſion or intentions to carry away any part of it, conceiving that the Benares diſtricts and the Company's provinces will anſwer for themſelves, as I have repeatedly wrote to the Commander in Chief on the ſubject.

Cawnpore, I have the honour to be, &c.
15th Nov. 1783. (Signed) JA. MORGAN,
Col. commanding the Troops in the Field.

A true Copy.
H. Lloyd,
Secy.

Ordered, That the Secretary do immediately tranſmit copies of theſe papers to the committee of grain, and that they make early inquiry with reſpect to the wants of the two brigades in proviſions for their ſubſiſtence to the places of their reſpective deſtination, and take meaſures for ſupplying them agreeable to thoſe wants, charging the troops for the ſervice in ſuch manner and at ſuch rates as the committee may deem moſt equitable and proper.

The Secretary lays before the board the following letter, which he received yeſterday from the Secretary to the Committee of Grain.

Sir,

I am directed by the Committee of Grain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th inſtant, with its ſeveral encloſures, and to inform you, that they have already ſent orders to the Chief at Patna, and to the Reſident at Benares, to take every meaſure in their power neceſſary to ſupply the troops under the command of Colonels Ironſide and Morgan with grain, during their march to their reſpective ſtations, and that they will again repeat their injunctions on this ſubject.

I am, &c.
Fort William, F. MURE,
9th Dember, 1783. Secy.

Extract

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 16th December 1783.

Read the following letters from Mr. Bristow:

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

On the 5th instant I had the honour to address you on the subject of Colonel Sir John Cumming's application to the Vizier, for permission to detach a regiment of sepoys in order to effect the release of Mr. Maclean's boats: the enclosed paper is a copy of Colonel Cumming's proceedings on this occasion, and Mr. Maclean's representation; and as the conduct of the Aumil Jaoo Lull, and his Naib Bussunt Roy, appeared highly criminal, I have applied to his Highness to oblige them to make restitution for Mr. Maclean's loss, and punish them by dismission from their offices. I have not yet had the honour to receive any answer, except in general terms, through the minister, that his Highness was very willing to grant redress.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, 23d Oct. 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, 12th October, 1783.

"Immediately after the receipt of your letter enclosing the Vizier's shoker, I ordered Major Grant's regiment to be in readiness to march at the shortest notice; at the same time I wrote a private letter to Bussunt Roy, desiring him to assist with a few horse in apprehending the runaways. Enclosed is a copy of his answer, in which you will perceive strong marks of insincerity; and notwithstanding his repeated wishes that the offenders might be rooted out, he availed himself of the information contained in my letter, to forewarn them of their danger, and caused the things which had been taken from Mr. Maclean's boats to be restored, and the boats themselves to be sent off from the place where they had been so long detained. Mr. Maclean had this morning a letter from the servants he had kept with the boats, informing him that they were released in consequence of Bussunt Roy's sending his Hircarrahs to command these people to let them go, and to restore what they had taken out. This circumstance fully demonstrates that Bussunt Roy had it in his power to release the boats long since, if he had thought proper, and that there subsists a good understanding between him and the people who detained

tained and plundered them; and it is not unlikely but Jaoo Lall might have given intimation of the Vizier's orders to those who were the objects of it, even before it reached me, with a design of counteracting your endeavours and mine. As it is proved thus clearly that Bussunt Roy is himself a party concerned, I see no reason why he should not be made answerable for the outrages and depredations committed by the people he patronizes; and if your influence extends so far, I could wish it were carried into execution. If this man be not punished, I see no possibility of checking the evils we complain of, unless I were furnished with a general authority to punish those who molest and interrupt merchants coming to camp, without the tedious form of a regular application to the Vizier. If this power be not delegated to me, I see no remedy; for this affair has convinced me that the Aumils are privy to the mischiefs done by the Zemindars and Ryots, and that they have power to restrain and punish, though not the inclination to do either.

With respect to Mr. Maclean, the loss is but little alleviated by what has been done for him, since it is found that the water in the river is now insufficient for the boats to pass; he must therefore submit to the loss of near 6,000 rupees, though his circumstances are ill qualified to support it.

As the grounds of my application removed by the release of the boats, I have thought it adviseable to stop the march of the regiment, lest those who have been principally concerned in counteracting our endeavours, might misrepresent the matter. I am, however, still of opinion, and I dare say you will join in it with me, that the offenders are no less deserving punishment.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. George Maclean to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Lucknow, 19th October, 1783.

In the beginning of April last I took the liberty to beg your permission to proceed to Pyllibeet, and build budgerows and boats, to cut timber and planks, exclusive of those required for building the said budgerows and boats; —I accordingly built 12 budgerows, and 4 boats.

In the middle of July last I loaded on the said budgerows and boats as much timber and planks as they could carry, to the number of 200 timbers and 8,000 planks; they were dispatched from Pyllibeet on the 21st July, well manned, with one mangie and 8 dandies to each; exclusive of these I dispatched the same day 30,000 bamboes for the use of the Company's buildings at Cawnpore, and 500

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bamboes for tent poles: about the beginning of August they arrived in the neighbourhood of the country called Sandre Pallee, which is rented by Bussunt Roy; the Zemindars on both sides the river in that district, on the arrival of the boats, stopped them, and took out by force as many as they chose of the timbers, planks, and bamboes; they ill used my people who had charge of the boats, and even robbed them of their cloaths; for fear of giving trouble, I wrote several letters myself to them, requesting they would release the boats, &c. and I would with pleasure pay any duty they might require; but all my labour was to no purpose; the only answer I got by my servants was, if I could use superior force to theirs, I might take my property: in consequence of these answers, I complained to Colonel Sir John Cumming, who was so obliging as to write to the Commanding Officer at Barelly, requesting he would endeavour to effect the release of my boats, &c. believing they were stopped in the district of Rohilcund. Colonel Knudson, in consequence of that order, was so kind as to use his influence with the Aumil of Rohilcund to release the boats; the Aumil was so good as to send two hircarrahs with a purwannah to the people who had stopped them; but instead of complying with this order, they stripped the hircarrahs of all their cloaths, beat them severely, and tore the purwannah: these particulars will more fully appear by the copies of Colonel Sir John Cumming and Colonel Knudson's letters, which I have already taken the liberty to forward to you; on my receiving Colonel Knudson's letter, Sir John Cumming was so friendly as to represent the case to you, which representation you was so kind as to approve of.

Bussunt Roy, the Aumil of the country where the boats were stopped, pretended all the time that he could not release them, as the people would not obey him; but the moment he heard the intention of a regiment marching to that country, he immediately sent hircarrahs, and his orders were instantly complied with, without any difficulty. It must evidently appear, to any impartial judge, that Bussunt Roy's orders might have been as effective at first, as they were at the last, if he meant it.

About the 10th of this month, in consequence of hearing the regiment was coming, the boats, timbers, and bamboes that remained were released; but it is now too late, as I was under obligation to deliver the boats, timbers, planks, and bamboes, on the last day of September, or the 1st instant; now the river is entirely dry, and it is totally impossible to get them away before the next rains, without incurring an expence more than their value: by this misfortune I am likely to lose a sum of money which must

inevitably

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inevitably be my ruin if I meet with no redreſs; if the particulars are requiſite I am ready to give it when called upon; but in a word, the boats, timbers, and bamboes, coſt me, before they left Pellyput, 10,000 rupees. I have had 16 mangies and 120 dandies, with 12 cluſhies, and a moonſhee, at the expence of 500 rupees per month, ſince the 1ſt July till this day, attending on theſe boats, beſides, two margulls which were on the boats, coſt me 600 rupees; now the Company's boats are ſold, it is ever out of my power to get mine into their ſervice. The ſecond brigade being under marching orders to go down the country, by this removal I had a ſecond opportunity to diſpoſe of my boats, but am again diſappointed; I therefore moſt humbly beg that you will take my caſe into conſideration, and I flatter myſelf the juſtneſs of my complaint will appear clearly to you.

I beg leave to obſerve, how much againſt the benefit of the poor people the Aumils act, when they do not encourage me in the branch which I wiſhed to follow, during the time I ſtaid at Pillybeet; I had artificers of different ſorts employed, to the number of 400 men a day, beſides 50 hackerries: I brought no merchandize with me into that country but ready money; and in the courſe of two months I laid out, for the production of the wilderneſs, ſuch as I may call timbers, bamboes, and mens labour, 10,000 rupees: Every perſon who worked with me was fully ſatisfied, and had I been encouraged or permitted without interruption, I would be able to lay out a very capital ſum yearly in that line, which muſt certainly help to enrich that country. I never did, nor do I now wiſh to be excuſed any reaſonable duties to paſs through the country where it ſhould be paid. This is a buſineſs that would prove very ſerviceable to all the Engliſh ſettlements upon the Ganges above Chunar Ghur, and deprives the natives of no part of their privileges, as they actually do not underſtand boat-building. I moſt humbly beg your pardon for intruding ſo much on your time, and have the honour, &c.

True Copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured by the receipt of your commands of the 29th ultimo, informing me that you have been pleaſed to iſſue orders for taking off the duties on grain of all kinds tranſported to the upper country; and that theſe orders are to continue in force for two months, beginning from the 1ſt inſtant, after which time your Honourable

Board would consider the necessity, if any should exist, for prolonging that period.

It is with the deepest concern, Gentlemen, I acquaint you that we have had no rain since last I had the honour to address you on this subject, and the general scarcity is now become a matter of very serious alarm. Colonel Sir John Cumming and Lieut. Colonel Knudson have proposed a plan for supplying the troops; a copy of their letters I have the pleasure to enlose, and solicit your commands on the measures which it is your pleasure should be followed: Wheat, the principal food of the inhabitants of these provinces, is at this early season selling at so high a rate as ten seers per rupee, and flour at eight seers per rupee, in the town of Lucknow; and in the interior parts of the country there are not above three or four seers difference in the price. The bad management in Lucknow has already produced the effects of famine, the inhabitants being in the utmost distress, and in a few days many must perish from want. Colonel Cumming continues to complain of the difficulties under which he labours in subsisting the troops, and the opposition he receives from the Aumils; for the particulars of which I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying letters. I have renewed my applications to * Almass Ally Cawn, on the subject of his furnishing the grain he promised, and these are the only means which lay in my power of getting him to do his duty; while he may remain the uncontrolled ruler of the countries under his charge, orders from the Vizier he totally disregards.

In my opinion, Gentlemen, which I submit with due deference to your judgment, it appears absolutely necessary to lay in a stock of grain for the subsistence of the troops, as hereafter, at the time famine may generally prevail, the difficulties and expence attending the measure will be proportionably encreased, and I ever doubt if the greatest exertions of power could, in the situation of the Vizier's government, effect a supply of the quantities necessary for your army and its followers, particularly on the relief of the brigade, when there will be a greater number to provide for.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
24th October, 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

* *Vide Postscript to the Resident's address to the Board, of the 24th September*, 1783.

Copy

Copy of a letter from Lieut. Colonel Knudson to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Barelly, 30th September, 1783.

As the exigency of the times renders it necessary that immediate steps should be taken to secure the supplies requisite for the troops, by establishing a magazine, that the operations of the detachment may not be impeded for want of provisions should it be found necessary to advance it when the Ganges becomes fordable, for the protection of his Excellency the Vizier's dominions, near the Hardowar, against the Seiks and other freebooters, since that country, on account of the distress it already suffers, is unable to afford it any supplies: I have accordingly secured the quantity of grain specified in the estimate I had the honour to transmit you of the 23d instant; but as the sum necessary for the immediate purchase of the grain, which is calculated according to the price the grain bears at this place, amounts to the large sum of rupees 1,48,987 must be advanced by government, it will be necessary that an order be sent on the Aumils or other persons to that amount, should the government deem it proper to provide for the subsistence of the troops under my command, by the mode I have recommended.

Extract of a Letter from Col. Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Residnet at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, 5th October 1783.

It is with great reluctance that I repeat my solicitations for a supply of money for the troops. The Benjarries represent their inability to purchase grain, unless they are paid what is due to them from the Sepoys From the most minute inquiries, I have reason to apprehend it will be impossible to supply the troops with provisions for more than eight or nine days, without pay being issued to them; I look forward to that period with the utmost anxiety, and dread the consequences of a failure, for the distress is extreme. The native officers and sepoys have pawned every thing belonging to them that is valuable.

Mr. Bristow, in Answer to the above, dated Lucknow, 7th October, 1783.

I have received your favour of the 5th instant; a lack of rupees will be dispatched to-morrow for Furruckabad, and I must request you will immediately order a sufficient party to take charge of it, the officer who commands the escort from hence being directed to proceed until he meets the gentleman you may detach.

P. S. I have the pleasure to enclose a route.

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Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, October 9th, 1783.

I have been favoured with both your letters of the 7th inſtant; and, in compliance with your deſire, have ordered an eſcort to march to-morrow morning to meet the treaſure.

As the ſeaſon is now approaching when we may reaſonably expect incurſions into the Vizier's dominions by the Seiks, and other plunderers, I beg leave to ſuggeſt to you the difficulties a detachment muſt inevitably be expoſed to with reſpect to proviſions, ſhould it be neceſſary for one to be ſent towards Anoopſheir, or the weſtward frontiers. In times of plenty he always truſts for ſupplies to Bengaris, who procure them from the contiguous villages; but in the preſent ſcarcity you muſt be ſenſible that reſource could not be depended on. Should the honourable Board approve of the propoſal for laying a magazine of grain at Futty Ghur, I am of opinion that the diſtance between it and the weſtern frontier is much too great for the carriage of ſupplies, and that the expence of conveying them from the former place to the latter would add one third to their price; add to which, it would be impoſſible to carry grain to ſo great a diſtance without the protection of larger eſcorts than could be ſpared from the detachments. For theſe reaſons, I beg leave to ſubmit to your conſideration, whether it would not be adviſeable for his Excellency to direct ſome of the Aumils neareſt the weſtern frontiers to collect 50,000 maunds of grain, and to preſerve it in ſome convenient place, in readineſs againſt ſuch an occaſion as I have above deſcribed. A meaſure of this kind could not fail to prevent many difficulties which otherwiſe may moſt probably ariſe. It is true the country at preſent is in a ſtate of tranquillity, but the ſeaſon for predatory incurſions is approaching very faſt, and it is not unreaſonable to ſuppoſe that the ſevere diſtreſſes, from the ſcarcity of proviſions in their own country, may ſtimulate the Seiks to make more violent attacks than they have uſually done, perhaps cauſe them to come now in more numerous and more formidable bodies. I am perfectly apprized of the difficulty you would have in carrying into execution the propoſal I have recommended, yet I thought it adviſeable to ſtate to you my thoughts on the ſubject thus early, in order that you might have time to conſider of it, and to take ſuch ſteps as may appear moſt eligible and conducive to the public advantage. Our endeavours to provide againſt dangerous contingencies will at leaſt ſhew that we have not been inattentive to our duty.

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Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, 14th October, 1783.

I ſome time ſince acknowledged the receipt of the Vizier's ſhockas to the Aumils, which I am ſenſible were wrote in the ſtrongeſt and moſt pointed terms. But I am ſorry to obſerve, that as far as I have had occaſion to make uſe of them, they have failed of producing the deſired effect. To deſire a repetition of the orders can anſwer no purpoſe. I have the ſtrongeſt grounds for believing that the Aumils are concerned with the Merchants, and are intereſted in raiſing the price of grain. It is true I cannot bring poſitive proof of what I have aſſerted, it being in its nature very difficult to prove, and my ſituation precludes me from the means of obtaining it. The Burmicks, who were ſent to Kanage with the order on Almaſs's Naib, have returned empty-handed; they report that they were ſent away from Kanage without any grain, and directed to procure it from Jellalodeen, an Officer under Government at Fatteah, where they were permitted to purchaſe, and to load their bullocks, but prevented from bringing it to our camp, and ordered to carry it to Almaſs's troops, who it was ſaid were in as great diſtreſs for proviſions as ourſelves. I cannot take upon me to ſay that this is a true repreſentation, but it is ſuch as I have received from the Burmicks, and my Hircarrahs who accompanied them; however, to aſcertain the truth, I am now going to ſend an Havildar and ſix ſepoys to Kanage, and a like number to Fattea, to each of whom I ſhall give a letter addreſſed to the reſpective Officers of Government, in order to enquire whether there be any obſtructions thrown in the way of procuring grain, or not; when they return I ſhall inform you of the reſult of their enquiries. In the mean time I thought it adviſeable to acquaint you with my having ſent them, and the buſineſs which they are to execute.

There is alſo another circumſtance, which I am under the neceſſity of troubling you with: Some days ſince we were ſo much diſtreſſed for grain as to be driven to apply to the Zemindar of a village called Bernamow, cloſe to the left of our camp, for 200 maunds of wheat; the Zemindar, after ſome heſitation, ſupplied the required quantity at a lower price than that which was current at Furruckabad; about ten days after a party of horſe and foot, accompanied with a gun, were ſent to apprehend the aforeſaid Zemindar in the night time: Upon inveſtigation it appears that the reaſon for confining him was, his having ſupplied us with the wheat above mentioned, and it was done in conſequence of a complaint by another Zemindar, who

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being urged to contribute a quantity of grain for the use of our camp, represented to the Sezawal, that had it not been for the former Zemindar's (of Bernamow) easy compliance with our demand, no demand would have been made on him; upon this information the man was confined, in order to deter others from following his example. This circumstance also is a convincing proof of the connection between the Aumils and Merchants, and their joint endeavours to raise the price of provisions. I must however observe, that the conduct of Mahomed Beg on this occasion was presumptuous and highly reprehensible. The village he surrounded with a body of horse and foot, not less than 250, together with a gun, is within our lines, being between the left of the sepoy lines and the artillery barracks; and it was a most fortunate circumstance that the villagers made no resistance, for had there been an occasion for the assailants to make use of their fire arms, the line would have been alarmed, and in all probability the whole force sent by the Sezawal would have been destroyed. I have been particular in stating these circumstances, that you may be able to judge of the insults offered, by entering our lines in the night time, with such a military force, and I hope you will inflict such punishment on the offender, as the case deserves.

P. S. After the most minute enquiry into the cause of confining the Zemindar, all they can alledge in excuse is, that he was bound for the appearance of another Zemindar. The enclosed is a copy of his bond, which was for the last year, and not the present.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, 19th October, 1783.

Some days since I informed you of my intention to send a small party of sepoys to Kanoge and to Fateah, to enquire into the reasons of the Benjuries being refused liberty to purchase grain in those places. The enclosed letters are from the Havildars, who commanded the parties; you will perceive by them, that notwithstanding the purwannah formerly given by Almass, his Naib positively refuses supplying our camp. It must be evident to you, that there is some secret influence which counteracts the public orders, otherwise those people would not presume to act in such open disobedience.

The Aumil of Kanoge is the same who some months since stopped the public dauks, and who on all occasions demonstrates a disposition to turbulence and resistance, consequently he is a fit object for punishment.

Translation

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Translation of the Havildar's letter, &c. referred to by Colonel Cumming.

Agreeable to your desire I went to Kanoge with the Vizier's purwannah, and had an interview with the Phousdar, who plainly answered, " Who is the Colonel? There is " a large quantity of grain here, but I will not give any of " it;" and farther said, " let him have me turned out." The Aumil disregards you, and agreeable to your orders, I have enquired into affairs here; and Aumed Sing, sepoy, will in person relate them to you.

Aumed Sing's Narrative.

The following is the state of affairs:—Seyn ul Abeen Cawn, Aumil of Teirba and Tatea, prevents your sepoys going there; and I represent in consequence that it may be effected by placing a guard over him, as without punishment he never will assent.

The Aumil of Kanoge acts in the same manner, because all the Aumildaries are under Almass: If one is punished they will then permit a free passage through their country.

True copies, extract, and translation.

J. NEAVE,

Assistant to the Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

The advices contained in these letters are so very imperfect, that the Governor General desires for himself to decline joining in any orders that may be issued concerning them. The Zemindars in the provinces of Oude, and in the other dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, have ever been either in a state of actual rebellion, or bordering upon it; even in the time of the Nabob Sujah ul Dowlah they could only be restrained by a military force superior to that which they could oppose to it. At this time the government and administration of that country are usurped, so far as they can be usurped, by Mr. Bristow. He is in the practice of making ostensible representations to the Board, but concealing his own agency and their object, as I have already shewn in numerous and incontrovertible instances, and of receiving orders from the Board, which directed his application to the Nabob Vizier for acts to be passed by his authority, but executing them by his own. The people, even the meanest of them, are aware of the weakness which that government derives from this irregular and unascertained rule. The Zemindars will be encouraged to acts of greater contumacy than even those to which they were accustomed, and the Aumils will avail themselves of it for interested purposes;

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purposes; at this time especially, when the necessities of the country, and (what concerns us infinitely more, the subsistence of two armies of our own establishment depend) the vigorous and constant exercise of some power, both to guard against the fatal effects of the impending drought, and to maintain the peace of the country from the desperate consequences which are ever incident to such a calamity: It becomes the Board to consider whether it is morally possible for Mr. Bristow to exercise the controul which he has assumed, in subversion to the natural jurisdiction of the country; or, if it be resolved that he shall exercise it, whether it will not be necessary even to go further, and to authorize and direct him to assume it, avowedly to appoint Agents and Officers of Government in the name of the Company, and be himself responsible for their acts. The Governor General means not to recommend this; God forbid that he should propose a measure so contrary to his sense of justice, of policy, and of national faith, and so inconsistent with the whole tenor of his public conduct! but he sees a train of irregularities leading to certain ruin, in the present acts and pretensions of the Resident; and whatever may be the determination of the Board, he records these sentiments, both as a warning to them, and as as an exculpation for himself from whatever may hereafter be the consequences.

Ordered, That the foregoing minute be circulated to the Members of the Board; and in the mean time agreed that the following letters be written to Mr. Bristow and Colonel Sir John Cumming.

Sir,

We have received your letters of the 23d October.

We were acquainted by your former letters with the complaints, and consequent proceedings in regard to the detention and plunder of some budgerows and boats belonging to Mr. George Maclean in the country of Sandy Pallie, rented by Bussunt Roy, and the treatment of his people by the Juminadars, &c. on that district.

We know not who Mr. Maclean is, nor under what authority he carries on any dealings in the Vizier's country; we are sure that he has not any permission from us to reside there, and we are much displeased that he has been permitted to engage in private trade without a licence: We suppose that he has some connection with the camp at Futty Ghur; we have therefore directed Colonel Sir John Cumming to take effectual measures for preventing any emigrations from it but by his authority, and that given only on the occasions of the public service, under the orders and regulations now in force; and we enjoin you to

be

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be careful that no act of permiſſion from you do in any inſtance, or in the ſmalleſt degree, counteract our directions to him.

Colonel Charles Morgan having repreſented to us that he will have occaſion for a lack of rupees on the arrival of his detachment at Etliah, to pay off ſome arrears now due to the old officers belonging to it, we deſire that you will remit it to him, if you can, for that purpoſe.

Fort William, We are, &c.
16th December, 1783.

Sir,

We have received letters from Mr. Briſtow on the ſubject of ſome complaints made by Mr. George Maclean in regard to the detention and plunder of ſome budgerows and boats in the country of Sundy Pallie, rented by Buſſunt Roy, and the treatment of his people by the Jummedars, &c. in that diſtrict.

We know not who Mr. Maclean is, nor under what authority he carries on any dealings in the Vizier's country; we are ſure that he has not any permiſſion from us to reſide there, and we are much diſpleaſed that he has been permitted to engage in private trade without a licence: We ſuppoſe that he has ſome connection with the camp at Futty Ghur; and we therefore direct that you take effectual meaſures for preventing any emigrations from it but by your authority, and that given only on the occaſions of the public ſervice, under the orders and regulations now in force.

Fort William, We are, &c.
16th December, 1783.

Read the following Letter from Mr. Briſtow:

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I am honoured with your commands of the 20th ultimo, through your Aſſiſtant Secretary, notifying to me "the "appoinitment of a Committee to ſuperintend and regu"late the ſale, diſtribution, and price of grain throughout "the Company's provinces," to which I ſhall ſhew every attention.

I have the honour to be, &c.
Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
2d November, 1783. Reſidt at the Vizier's Court.

To

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To William Bruere, Esquire, Assistant Secretary.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 16th ultimo, enclosing minutes of Council of the 14th October, 1783, to which I shall yield obedience.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
14th November, 1783. Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

Edward Hay, Esquire, Sub Secretary.

Sir,

As I have not yet been able to procure from the Minister of his Highness the documents and accounts necessary to enable me to furnish the Honourable Board with the explanation required from me in your letter of the 21st ultimo, I must beg, if any mention of this matter should occur, that you will acquaint the Gentlemen with the occasion of the delay, assuring them, I shall obey their commands the moment the accounts are delivered to me.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
17th November, 1783. Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I am honoured with your commands of the 4th instant; and in order to reply to them with the greater accuracy, I have delayed my answer, that I might re-persue Mr. Macpherson's letter to me; and having so done, "I now solemnly declare, and am ready to attest upon oath, that "Mr. Macpherson neither wrote or corrected, or in any "shape composed, the letter that accompanied my defence "against the charges preferred against me by the Vizier "and Hyder Beg Cawn; and I never did, through any "communication, direct from himself, or indirect through "others, transmit to me copies of what any other member "of the Board, or of what himself has written upon the "subject of the charges against me, or my defence."

Having made this pointed and solemn declaration as a Gentleman, and a man of honour, I feel myself obliged concisely to relate such particulars concerning the correspondence I had the honour to hold with Mr. Macpherson, as will afford information on the subject, and which I am equally ready to attest upon oath.

Mr. Macpherson did repeatedly enjoin me to observe moderation both in the matter and style of my defence; to reply to the points of accusation only, and avoid personal representations. If ever I have deviated from these injunctions, it

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it has only been when the necessity of my defence compelled me to it; and without such deviation it would have been difficult to have proved myself guiltless.

Permit me to declare, that the substance of Mr. Macpherson's correspondence to me in general has been uniform and consistent, in advising the most particular attention to the orders of Government, the prosperity and success of public affairs, and expressing an anxious inclination that I should shew every respect to the importance, dignity, and authority of the first member of your administration. On this latter head I am led to confess, that the object immediately and repeatedly held forth to my view by Mr. Macpherson was so to govern my conduct as to obtain a continuance of the Governor General's protection to me in the discharge of the duties of my office, and through so high and respectable a channel, confirm the confidence your Honourable Board were pleased to repose in me.

I am, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
22d November, 1783. Residt. at the Vizier's Court.

Read the following letter and enclosure from Mr. Cowper.

Gentlemen,

In obedience to your commands of the 4th instant, communicated to me through your Secretary, I have now the honour to transmit to the Honourable Board a declaration, the truth of which I shall always be ready to attest on oath, in the presence of a proper magistrate.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) Wm. COWPER,
15th November, 1783. Assistt. to the Residt. at Oude.

I solemnly declare, that Mr. Macpherson neither wrote, or corrected, or in any shape composed, the letter that accompanied Mr. Bristow's defence against the charges preferred against him by the Vizier and Hyder Beg Khan, and that he (Mr. Macpherson) never, through any communication, direct from himself, or indirect through others, transmitted to me copies of what any other member of the Board, or of what he himself has written, upon the subject of the charges against Mr. Bristow, or of his defence.

Lucknow. (Signed) Wm. COWPER.
15th November, 1783.

Read

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Read another letter and enclosures, as follows, from Mr. Bristow.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have already had the honour to apprize you of every particular concerning Khaujat Amul Deen, and of my intention, on his arrival at this place, to keep him in confinement until your pleasure shall be known. He is since arrived, and I have received two letters from the Nabob, enjoining his enlargement, with which, however embarrassed I found myself by the necessity of such a refusal to a requisition from his Highness, I have thought it my duty respectfully to decline complying, until I might be favoured with your commands on this head. The intelligence communicated to me by Lieutenant Colonel Knudson in October last, copy of which I had the honour to transmit to your Honourable Board in my address of the 30th of the same month, together with every part of the Minister's conduct in this business, convince me, there is an intimate and collusive connection between him and Khaujah Ain ul Deen; and that the Nabob's letters, of which I take the liberty to enclose copies, may, in the words of my instructions, be considered as dictated by Hyder Beg Cawn; under this conviction alone, I should have failed in my duty in releasing the prisoner, but the interruption, of which so dangerous a precedent might be productive to the Company's resources, operated more fully on my mind. Should this man be permitted to retire to his home, as his Highness is directed to request, and at his own leisure and convenience settle the accounts of his administration, or, in other words, were I to afford him a free communication with the Minister, I should have no hope of payment of any part of the heavy balance due from him, and the exemption from punishment, which he would be known to have derived from the Mistister's protection, would hold forth well-founded hopes to the Vizier's other Aumils of obtaining the same end by the same means. I am at this time more particularly desirous of impressing, by every exertion in my power, a general persuation of your determination to exact full and punctual payment of the Company's assignments, as will appear from the estimate of receipts and disbursements for this current year, enclosed in my address of the 12th ultimo, that the funds hitherto allotted me are barely adequate to the current expences. And should Almass Ally Cawn fail in his payment, there will be a material deficiency; and every effort on my part to supply the pay and arrears of your army, will, in that case, be rendered extremely difficult, if not utterly abortive.

The

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The enclosed translation of a letter from Almass Ally Cawn, is in answer to my last application to him for the balance of his kists, amounting at this time to 3 lacks 85 thousand rupees; a further kist will be shortly due, making altogether above eight lacks of rupees, for which I have hitherto no security, nor from the tenor of Almass's late conduct, am I to expect any. Your Honourable Board is already apprized of the correspondence he held, during his secession, with Mahajee Sindia; and I have reason to believe he continues to hold it, having had frequent intimation of messengers passing between their camps. No dependance is therefore to be placed in Almass's fidelity; and with regard to his plea of the loss of revenue, proceeding from the drought, though it is certain the Kureef harvest has been materially affected by that calamity, yet I am well informed his agents have collected with great rigour; and the advanced price at which grain sells, in a great measure, if not wholly, compensates to the farmer for a diminution of the quantity produced. At all events, the growing claim upon Almass becomes a subject of real importance to the Company's interest; and I can have little hope of realizing the amount, when the Minister, from whom I am to look for continued opposition in all my future efforts, has, I am informed, already anticipated a considerable proportion of it.

Were further proofs wanting of Hyder Beg Cawn's determination to encourage the officers of the Vizier's Government in their contumacy towards our representative, the enclosed letter from Sir John Cumming would establish the fact. It is in vain for me to expect punctuality in the payment of the Company's claims, when every insignificant Aumil is taught to hold the language so openly avowed by Bussunt Roy's vackeel to Colonel Sir John Cumming.—My solicitations on the subject in question (Mr. Maclean's complaints) shall be renewed, though I can have no hope of success. It rests with you, Gentlemen, to point out the mode which it is your pleasure I should prosecute for the redress of wrongs, to which British subjects and others, the adherents and dependants of the Company, are so frequently exposed.

The second letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming is no more than a natural consequence of the general confusion in the country; as the season advances, and the distress increases, it will prove a painful part of my duty to report, I fear, many similar occurences to you.

I have repeatedly called upon the acting minister to adopt vigorous measures for conferring the collections of the Company's assignments, though, from his hitherto consistent and determined opposition, I cannot flatter myself

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ſelf with a hope of aſſiſtance from him. A conſiderable balance upon your aſſignments muſt be the inevitable conſequence, which I ſee no means of obviating, and ſecuring the pay and arrears of your army, but by the interpoſition of your authority.

Lucknow, I have the honour to be, &c. &c.
2d December, 1783. (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

Copy of a Letter from his Highneſs the Vizier to Mr. Briſtow.

Khaujah Ain ud Deen, who was coming to the preſence, having been confined, has repreſented his ſituation to me, copy whereof I incloſe. It has been the cuſtom, that the diſpoſſeſſed Aumils ſhould repair to the preſence, and whatever balance might appear, from the inveſtigation of their accounts, ſhould be exacted. Now whatever you pleaſe to ſay, I ſhall write in anſwer to Khaujah Ain ud Deen.

Tranſlation of a Letter from his Highneſs the Vizier to Mr. Briſtow.

I wrote you before on the ſubject of Khaujah Ain ud Deen. It has been the cuſtom for the diſmiſſed Aumils to appear in the preſence, for the purpoſe of ſettling their accounts. Now that Khaujah Ain ud Deen is arrived, it is proper that he be releaſed from confinement, and permitted to remain at his own habitation: He will then have a free intercourſe with you, Sir; and having as uſual adjuſted his accounts with the officers of the Sircar, will diſcharge whatever balance may appear upon the face of them to be due from him he will diſcharge.

A true tranſlation.
(Signed) TREVOR WHELER,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

Tranſlation of a Letter from Almaſs Ally Cawn to Mr. Briſtow.

I have been favoured by the receipt of your letter, requiring the ſpeedy diſcharge of my Kiſts. I have already and repeatedly had the honour to repreſent to you the ſituation of the country, and the deficiency of the collections, as alſo the ruinous conſequences of the drought. All theſe particulars you are, Sir, perfectly acquainted with, and it is therefore unneceſſary that I ſhould dwell upon them. God is my witneſs that I am inceſſantly occupied in the ſervice of government, and wanting in no poſſible exertion that may contribute to the proper cultivation of the country during

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ying the Rubby ſeaſon. Whatever I have been able by unwearied attention and by harſhneſs, to collect from the country, I have already paid into the Sircar; and whatever may be hereafter forthcoming I ſhall ſcrupulouſly account for. There is no poſſible means neglected by me for the diſcharge of the government monies for years, as you, Sir, are ſenſible; and whilſt the ſeaſons were favourable I was never neglectful in the particular. This year, ſuch are the diſpenſations of the Almighty, there is the calamity of a famine. Oppoſed to the decrees of Providence, human efforts and human reaſons are vain and impotent.

I am therefore without remedy; and, looking up to you, who are the maſter of the kingdom and of me, I rely upon you for the ſupport and protection I have hitherto experienced.

A true tranſlation.

TREVOR WHELER

Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to John Briſtow, Eſquire, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, November 17th 1783.

Sir,

I have to inform you that the 11th regiment, ſent to the aſſiſtance of Beſſunt Roy, returned yeſterday without having effected any part of the buſineſs for which it was detached. Not an individual of Pauly has Beſſunt Roy apprehended, notwithſtanding that he had it in his power to have ſeized the chief man of that place, who, if my information can be depended upon, was twice or thrice with him in his own tent during the time the regiment was at Paulee; but I have the ſtrongeſt reaſons for believing that he never was ſerious in his profeſſed intentions to puniſh the offenders who plundered Mr. Maclean's boats, and that he thinks himſelf perfectly ſecure from the effects of your reſentment. At the time the Vizier ſent him ſome menacing Shokahs in conſequence of your repreſentations, he employed a perſon here to ſolicit from me a letter to his Excellency, expreſſive of my ſatisfaction with reſpect to his conduct. Upon its being obſerved that the beſt way he could purſue would be to give you proofs of his good behaviour, and afterwards get himſelf recommended by you, his agent replied, that his maſter was under no apprehenſion concerning the injury you could do him, provided he could aſſure the Vizier that I had no cauſe of complaint againſt him. How far his agent was authoriſed to

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ſay thus much, I know not; but the maſter's conduct gives it the appearance of truth.

A true Copy.

(Signed) TREVOR WHELER,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court; dated Futty Ghur, November 27th 1783.

I am to inform you that a fray has happened between the detachment ſent out to collect grain in the diſtrict of Chopramow, and the inhabitants of a village named Achbarpore: the latter had made a practice of carrying off the grain by night, of which the officer on command received intelligence, and agreeably to his inſtructions determined to prevent it. The people that were carrying away the grain finding that they were diſcovered, unloaded the Hackaries and Bullocks, and attacked the Company's Sepoys. The conſequence was, that a Zemindar and about twelve of his Ryots were killed, and four Sepoys of ours were killed alſo, and four more wounded

I am not without apprehenſion that more accidents of this kind will happen, as the people even though paid ready money, will not part with their grain voluntarily; and it is at the ſame time impoſſible for the troops here to ſubſiſt without regular ſupplies from the country. To you, who are well acquainted with the refractory ſpirit of the people in this neighbourhood, a circumſtance of this kind will not appear uncommon or extraordinary: I could however have wiſhed the event had not happened.

A true copy.

(Signed) TREVOR WHELER,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

The Governor General.—Mr. Briſtow in a former letter having complained that the Bankers who had lent to the Nabob, or to Mr. Briſtow in the Nabob's name, fifteen lacks of rupees, had refuſed to make another loan of the ſame ſum, although bound, as I recollect, by poſitive engagements, and had demanded payment of the firſt loan, both which inſtances he ſpeaks of in terms charging them with inſolence and preſumption, or uſing expreſſions very nearly reſembling theſe; this led me to enquire of Lalah Coſhaul Chund, the principal Agent of Gopaul Doſs Sah at this place, whether he knew of ſuch engagement as that mentioned by Mr. Briſtow; he aſſured me that he did not, and gave me reaſons which at the time convinced me that it was morally impoſſible he could. He has ſince confirmed this declaration

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declaration on the authority of his master, to whom he wrote on the subject, and has furnished me with a copy of the Bond given for the loan actually made, which, with the translation, I lay before the Board, deeming it, if authentic, a clear and absolute refutation of the assertion made by Mr. Bristow.

Copy of a Bond under the seal of Mr. John Bristow, dated the 6th Ryib 1197 Hegira, answering to the 7th June 1783, corresponding with the 23d Chort 1190 Fussulee.

The sum of 17 lacks 40 thousand Lucknow Sicca Rupees has been paid to the honourable Company's Sircar by the undermentioned creditors, through the hands of Lalla Mensa Ram, the Gomastah of Lallah Gopaul Doss Sau, upon loan, at the rate of 1 per cent. monthly interest, which I engage to repay, after the Company's necessary expences, from the receipts of the Company's assignments upon the Mahls of the Nabob Vizier.

Principal.		
From Lalla Munseram, the Gomastah of Lalla Gopaul Doss Sah — —	14,00,000	
From Lalla Kishenchund	1,00,000	
		15,00,000
Hundeawaun, at the rate of 16 per cent. — — —		2,40,000
Total —		17,40,000

The Governor General further begs leave to remind the the board, that there are now two applications before them for their determination, one from Lalah Coshaul Chund, petitioning the Board's orders for the payment of this debt, and another from the Nabob Vizier, requesting that he may be permitted to restore to his grandmother and other relations the Jagheers which were taken from them the beginning of last year. As this last request is immediately connected with the order of the Court of Directors, he desires that it may be taken into consideration at the same time, and entered in this place.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 27th December 1783.

The following letters from Mr. Bristow and Colonel James Morgan having been received on the 23d and 26th

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instant, were circulated on the respective days of their arrival to the members of the Board.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

When Almass Ally Khawn set off to superintend the cultivation of his districts during the Rubby harvest, he left his family at Lucknow, professing his intention to return as soon as the object of his journey should be accomplished. The proofs of his former infidelity, as they appeared in the intercepted correspondence between him and Mahajee Scindia, and Mr. Anderson's discovery of his connection with the Marattas, I have already had the honour to transmit to you.—Permit me, Gentlemen, to refer you, for the detail, to my address of the 4th October last, and its enclosures.

With this evidence in recollection against him, I could trust but little to the steadfastness of his allegiance; and as my suspicions were further awakened by an unusual tardiness in the payment of his Kists, even before his departure, I determined to be very attentive to all his conduct: With respect to the performance of his pecuniary engagements, I apprized you, Gentlemen, in an address, dated the 12th November, and one of the 2d instant, how entirely my representations had failed in persuading to be more punctual; although these representations have been repeatedly renewed, they have hitherto produced nothing but unmeaning professions on his part, insomuch, indeed, that Almass, who till this year was ever accustomed to furnish his monthly payments in advance, is now proportionably more in arrears than any other Aumil—the balance on this account duy from him, amounting to eight lacks of rupees.

Great as must be the disappointment and inconvenience arising to the Company from a deficiency in their resources so little expected, I am afraid it is not in this instance alone that the conduct of Almass will be found highly reprehensible. I have particular occasion to believe he has again actually entered upon designs of a treasonable complexion, and which, if not timely guarded against and prevented, may be eventually productive of infinite confusion and mischief in the Vizier's government. My intelligence coming through various channels, is uniform and positive, that he has renewed his correspondence with the Marrattas. I also certainly know, that he has secretly and compleatly withdrawn his family and effects, as well as those of all his dependants from Lucknow. Such measures as I, in consequence of these informations, judged it necessary to adopt, without loss of time, will appear from the accompanying copies of letters addressed by me to the commanding officers at Cawnpore and Futtyghur. I hope the precautions therein recommended

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mended to Colonels Morgan and Cumming will meet with your approbation. I am more particularly anxious, gentlemen, that nothing neceſſary to the ſecurity of the cantonments at Cawnpore ſhould be omitted, as I underſtand Almaſs is in force at a place not very diſtant from that ſtation. I ſhall be indefatigably attentive to diſcover the extent of this new plot, which as yet, I truſt, is in no great forwardneſs, as well as careful inſtantly to communicate to your honourable Board all that may occur of importance on the ſubject. In the mean time, as far as depends upon me, I ſhall make ſuch diſpoſitions as to be prepared againſt the worſt.

I am, with the higheſt reſpect, &c. &c. &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
13th December 1783. Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Tranſlation of a letter from Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court, to Almaſs Ally Khawn; dated 4th of Mohurrum 1198 Hegira.

Your * letter, in excuſe for not paying the Kiſts on account of the drought, is received. There is no doubt of the calamity; but it is alſo known, that ſomething is produced (though there is a ſcarcity) during the Fuſſil. Before this, you were acquainted, that all the Aumils pay their Kiſts: You have only paid two lacks, inſtead of ſeven lacks of rupees, to the end of Cateck; for this reaſon you are wrote to not to conſider it a trifling matter, and to uſe your utmoſt endeavours to pay your Kiſts.

A true Tranſlation.

(Signed) R. GREGORY,
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident.

Tranſlation of a Letter from Almaſs Ally Khan to Mr. John Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Your letter, ordering me to uſe my endeavours to pay the Kiſts, and not think it a trifling matter, is received. My benefactor! have I ever trifled with your orders, even upon the moſt indifferent buſineſs? How is it poſſible I can conſider this as trifling, which relates to the payment of money? My punctuality heretofore you know. I paid every year regularly what was due, and prevented the neceſſity of being applied to for arrears: this is conſiſtent with my inclination. The calamity that attends the preſent year is

* *This Letter was an anſwer to the encloſure, No.* 2. *forwarded in the Reſident's addreſs to the Board, of date the* 2d *December* 1783.

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kown. It is my misfortune that you are pleased to send me such orders, which makes me ashamed and afflicted, for my honour depends upon your protection. God knows, I do not allow myself a moment's leisure from the business of the collections; the farmers are now employed in watering the lands for the Rubby harvest, and they will not have sown the seed in this country till the middle of Poos, for they cannot, with the utmost labour, water from one well more than eight or ten biswas in a day. Till the seed is in the ground there is no prospect of Jaydaads. I have wrote to the Aumils and Chuckledars most pressingly to make the arrangements. Be pleased to think that the country is extensive; and this year the produce of the lands will be collected from the farmers, as they are alone responsible for the portion each cultivates, and not a rupee besides the Jaydaads now settling will be collected from the Zemindars. The people are dying by famine, and it must be with the greatest care that the Jaydaads are realized. After the grain is sown, the Aumils will get Jaydaads, and send me an account, which, as soon as received, I will present to you in person. When the account is prepared, after crediting the Tamaut, &c. whatever Kistbundee may be settled shall be paid from the collections of the country: till the arrangements are made, not a cowry of the collections shall be expended. The Tainaut and Tuncawders shall be dismissed, except some horse and foot for the purpose of collecting. Without troops it is in vain to expect any collections; in this time of scarcity, it will be necessary to give them sufficient to live upon.—What can be done?—Human endeavours are of no avail in competition with the will of the Almighty—My fortune depends upon your protection—Whatever is received, Laula Taise Roy will acquaint you.

A true Translation.

(Signed) R. GREGORY.

To Colonel John Morgan, commanding the troops in the Field.

Sir,

As I have strong reasons to doubt the loyalty of Almass Ally Khan, I am very apprehensive that he may seize the opportunity which the departure of the brigade from Cawnpore presents to him, of throwing off his allegiance, and possibly make some attempt to possess himself of the artillery and stores left at that station; I must therefore request you will favour me with your opinion, whether you think the force now left at Cawnpore under the command of Major Dunn, is sufficient to enable that officer, should Almass actually harbour any such design, to defend himself till reinforcements may arrive from the stations of Lucknow, Kyrabad,

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Kyrabad, and Salore, or from Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment, and supposing Almass to bring with him to the attack, as I believe he readily might, a body of troops, artillery, &c. agreeably to the enclosed statement—If you are of opinion that Major Dunn's present force is insufficient, I am further to request you will direct such an augmentation to be made to it from your brigade as may effectually secure him against any hostile attempt from the quarter abovementioned, till the arrival of Colonel Ironside. I should have addressed you earlier on this subject, but it was only to-day that the intelligence reached me, from which I am led particularly to think the defection of Almass probable. I hope, indeed the best, but it is nevertheless, in common prudence, necessary to guard against every possible contingency; at the same time, as the appearance of suspicion or distrust, on the part of Government, with respect to his good faith, might tend to confirm Almass in his evil designs and accelerate a measure which is at present perhaps only in contemplation: I dare say you will agree with me in opinion, that in recommending the utmost vigilance to the commanding officer at Cawnpore, &c. it is highly proper the motives inducing these precautions should be kept as secret as possible.

I have the honour, &c. &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
10th December 1783. Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a letter I have received from the Resident at the Vizier's Court, and of its enclosures. I had the honour to address you upon the subject of them, in a letter under date 29th August last, and then requested to have your instructions upon the case; since that time, so far from having any reasons to suspect Almass Aly Khan of being any ways disaffected, I concluded he was the reverse, for, by all accounts, I have understood that friendly interviews had passed lately between him and Mr. Bristow at Lucknow; and every thing settled then in the most amicable manner. And though I have heard that he purchased some houses at Kalpi, and had an agent in the Maratta camp with Scindia, yet I have never had any grounds for a suspicion of his having the least design to give offence to our government; but, that no precaution might be omitted for securing the station of Cawnpore, I have taken the steps which are mentioned in the enclosed copy of my letter to Mr. Bristow. Agreeably to general orders, I am thus far on my way to Illahabad, where the second brigade is directed to pass the third. At and before I left Cawnpore, I had ordered,

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ordered, in conformity to the Commander in Chief's inſtructions, three of the Sepoy regiments to march down the country by a different route, to prevent the troops ſuffering from ſcarcity of grain. However, in my opinion, when Major M'Clary has joined Major Dunn at Cawnpore, there will be a force ſufficient for ſecuring the artillery and magazine from any kind of danger, the lines of Cawnpore affording a ſtrong poſt for them to occupy in caſe of neceſſity.

I have the honour, &c. &c.

Camp, near Carrah, (Signed) JAMES MORGAN,
16th Dec. 1783. Col. commanding 2d Brigade.

To Colonel James Morgan, commanding the Troops in the Field.

Sir,

As I have ſtrong reaſons to doubt the loyalty of Almaſs Ally Cawn, I am very apprehenſive that he may ſeize the opportunity which the departure of the brigade from Cawnpore preſents to him, of throwing off his allegiance, and poſſibly make ſome attempt to poſſeſs himſelf of the artillery and ſtores left at that ſtation. I muſt, therefore, requeſt you will favour me with your opinion, whether you think the force now left at Cawnpore, under the command of Major Dunn, is ſufficient to enable that officer, ſhould Almaſs actually harbour any ſuch deſign, to defend himſelf till reinforcements may arrive from the ſtations of Lucknow, Kyrabad, and Salone, or from Sir John Cumming's detachment; and ſuppoſing Almaſs to bring with him to the attack, as I believe he readily might, a body of troops, artillery, &c. agreeably to the encloſed ſtatement. If you are of opinion that Major Dunn's preſent force is inſufficient, I am further to requeſt you will direct ſuch an augmentation to be made to it from your brigade as may effectually ſecure him againſt any hoſtile attempt from the quarter above mentioned, till the arrival of Colonel Ironſide.

I ſhould have addreſſed you earlier on this ſubject, but it was only to day that the intelligence reached me, from which I am led particularly to think the defection of Almaſs probable. I hope, indeed, the beſt, but it is nevertheleſs in common prudence neceſſary to guard againſt every poſſible contingency; as the appearance of ſuſpicion and diſtruſt on the part of Government with reſpect to his good faith, might tend to confirm Almaſs in his evil deſigns, and accelerate a meaſure which is at preſent perhaps only in contemplation: I dare ſay you will agree with me in opinion, that in recommending the utmoſt vigilance to the Commanding Officer at Cawnpore, &c. it is highly proper

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proper the motives inducing these precautions should be kept as secret as possible.

I have the honour, &c. &c.

Lucknow, 10th Dec. 1783. (Signed) J. BRISTOW, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have this moment received your letter of the 10th inst. and in consequence have ordered Major M'Clary to march back with his regiment to Cawnpore with the utmost expedition, where he will arrive in two days. And now I have only one regiment of Sepoys with me; but I cannot think that Almass has any intention to disturb the station of Cawnpore; however, as Colonel Sir John Cumming is now in full force, from having been joined by Major Duncan with two regiments, I hope and flatter myself, that you have wrote to him upon the subject, as I recommended it to you in my letter of the 29th August last, which I refer you for what I thought necessary to be said on the subject: And he will not fail to give every assistance the occasion requires, for the protection of the Cawnpore station, if you have wrote to him.

Before this time you must have seen the necessity of reinforcing the station, and troops from Khyrabad might have been ordered for that service; and even if the case was emergent, a battalion from the regiment at Lucknow might have been sent, both which I recommend to you to be done.

Was I to return with the remainder of the brigade, it might, as you observe, hasten his defection, and give him some suspicion of our Government's having inimical instructions towards him.

I shall halt here some time, in consequence of your letter, and of Colonel Ironside's wishing to pass me upon the march, instead of meeting me at Illahabad, lest there should be a scarcity of grain.

I have to request of you to be so good as to desire Mr. Hutchinson to proceed to Manickpore with the treasure; and in case he should have left Lucknow, that you will be so good as to dispatch a letter after him to desire him to march to this place.

Dated Carrah, 14th Dec. 1783. (Signed) JAMES MORGAN, Col. commanding the troops in the field.

END OF THE FOURTH VOLUME.

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